

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

NMI sells half of ahi fishing quota to Hawaii fishermen

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The sale of half of the Commonwealth's bigeye tuna fishing quota has effectively allowed Hawaii longline fishermen to sink their hooks into the ocean again—two months after the Hawaii vessels were banned from fishing after exhausting the state's catch limits.

» **Sale effectively reopens Hawaii fishery**
» **NMFS approves re-allocation of quota**

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has struck an agreement with about three dozen longline fishing vessels—specifically Quota Management, Inc. of Honolulu—to transfer 1,000 metric tons of the CNMI's 2,000-metric-ton-limit to these Hawaiian vessels, according to the Western and Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council in a statement yesterday.

CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Richard Seman separately confirmed this agreement yesterday, which will sell 1,000 metric ton of the year 2015's 2,000 metric ton terri-

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Tropical storm to pass near Anatahan

Tropical Depression 25W was upgraded last night to Tropical Storm Champi and is projected to become a typhoon when it passes through the Northern Islands north of Saipan in the vicinity of Anatahan on Friday night.

As of 7pm last night, Champi was located about 710 miles east-southeast of Agrihan, 655

miles east-southeast of Pagan, and 665 miles east of Saipan.

According to the weather bulletin issued by the CNMI Emergency Operations Center, Tropical Storm Champi is moving west-northwest at 20 mph.

"Motion in this general direction is expected to continue through Saturday, but Champi

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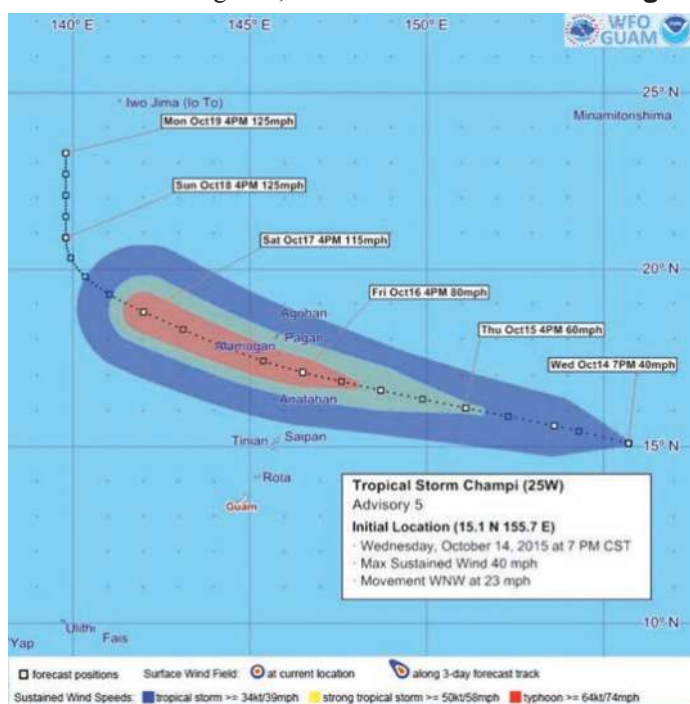


Image courtesy of the National Weather Service in Guam.



Lian Ping Yu, mother of Wan-xu Jiang, who died after falling from the balcony of his hotel room in Garapan last June, is on island to bury her son. Yu disagrees with police's findings that Jiang committed suicide. Also in the photo is Jiang's godfather, Wen Dong Li, left, and local businessman Ta Bun Kuy, right, who is helping them prepare Jiang's burial at the Tanapag Cemetery. Inset photo shows the smiling Jiang after ordering two lobsters at a Garapan restaurant a day before he died.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Mother disagrees with police that son killed self

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The mother of a 30-year-old Chinese man who was found dead on the terrace of the

second floor of the 18-story Grandvrio Resort in Garapan last June disagrees with the police's findings that her son killed himself.

Lian Ping Yu, 59, an engi-



neer, stated that based on the information she gathered, her son, Wan-xu Jiang, may have accidentally fallen from the balcony

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INSIDE



NATION

Hillary Clinton and Sen. Bernie Sanders clash in the first Democratic presidential debate.

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WORLD

Dutch probe says it was a Russian missile that downed a Malaysian jet in Ukraine.

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LIFE & STYLE

Playboy says it will no longer be running photos of nude women.

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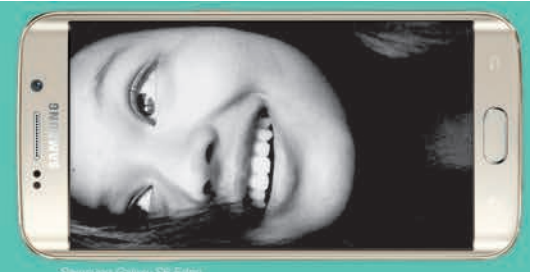


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Local

Labor: 902 talks right way to discuss CW program's issues

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

CNMI Secretary of Labor Edith DeLeon Guerrero said the Section 902 talks, or discussion between the Commonwealth government and the White House, is the appropriate avenue to discuss concerns over the CNMI's foreign worker program that is set to end in 2019.

"This is the most appropriate vehicle to discuss the concerns on the CW transition with the federal government, which will also require the CNMI to produce the workforce evidence data that explains and/or supports the position to extend or not beyond 2019," DeLeon Guerrero said. "The discretionary authority given to the U.S. Secretary of Labor under U.S. Public Law 110-229 to extend the CW worker program is no longer, hence advancing the need to initiate the 902 talks," she added.

Based on the numbers, there are not enough workers to fuel the workforce pipeline by 2019, according to DeLeon Guerrero.

In her talk with Assistant In-

terior Secretary Esther Kia'ana during the latter's visit last week, DeLeon Guerrero said they discussed gathering workforce data for pre-, during, and post-construction of the upcoming projects in the CNMI.

DeLeon Guerrero said she is willing to be part of the 902 talks to be able to clearly present the data regarding the state of the Commonwealth's workforce.

Discretionary authority

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan also met with Kia'ana along with DeLeon Guerrero.

"[Kia'ana's] going to be a strong advocate for helping us restore, hopefully restore, the discretionary authority to the U.S. Department of Labor to extend the CW visas," Sablan said.

Sablan said Kia'ana talked about what the Chamber and Labor need to do to set up their position papers and start lobbying and presenting white papers to local and federal Labor departments.

"The unfortunate decision

to pull the CW authority from DOL was made with distorted information or the lack of information. The only information at the time was our 2010 Census, which declared that there are 2,400 people unemployed, 10,000 people that were sitting outside the labor force. So basically, one fifth of our population was unemployed in their purview," Sablan said.

Sablan noted that 15,000 rooms are now projected to be built in the CNMI in the coming years, which would require more workers.

"What we're attempting to try to do is ask if we can get [the discretionary authority] restored because of the needs beyond 2019 based on what we perceive as the development that is being projected now," he said.

Sablan said the CNMI will not be able to meet the deadline and will not be ready to totally phase out the foreign workforce under the CW program. There are not enough individuals to sustain the CNMI economy beyond 2019, he added.

"At this stage we can't even

See LABOR on Page 4

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Divert EIS will be released this week

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A top U.S. Air Force official representing a proposed divert airfield project in the CNMI disclosed yesterday that plans for a divert airfield on either Saipan, Tinian, or on both islands would be released to the public this week.

Pacific Air Forces Brig. Gen. Andrew J. Toth, along with other Air Force and Defense officials, met with Commonwealth Ports Authority executives and board members yesterday for a courtesy visit to discuss the proposed divert project.

"The revised [environmental impact statement] is going to be released here within the next couple of days," Toth told reporters after their meeting yesterday. "The consulting parties have already had a chance to look at it."

A 45-day period for public comment will be provided after the EIS is released.

"We initially had a preferred alternative," said Toth. "As a result of consultations with the government of the CNMI and through the Air Force, what we've done is we've pulled the divert alternative and we just have options that we can go down."

The three options are a Saipan-only, Tinian-only, and a "hybrid option" spreading the projects out on both islands to lessen impact.

"No preferred alternative here this time," Toth said.

In earlier impact documents, the Air Force had placed fighter aircraft and munitions storage

capabilities. Instead, the Air Force plans to bring in 12 tanker aircraft to Saipan, two to four at any given time, for six to eight weeks a year, Toth said.

"We've significantly backed down the impact here in the CNMI,"

CPA's 'no'

A standing resolution passed by the CPA board last year essentially said "no" to the divert project on Saipan, pointing to Tinian instead.

"We are still in coordination with CPA," Toth said, when directed to the resolution. "Hopefully, as we pull this hybrid solution together, it is mutually beneficial to both the government here as well as the Air Force."

"There is potential out there that maybe the hybrid solution is beneficial to both the government as well as the Air Force," he added.

Speaking of the U.S. Marine Corps plan to operate at the Tinian airport, Toth repeated that the divert and the Marine Corps plans were "separate actions."

"From a [Department of Defense] perspective, yes, we are doing all of these things together. However, we are conducting these actions separately," he said.

"We are all under the DoD—and we are separate services there—but if the hybrid solution is the one that is selected... We can buy some synergies and the activities that [the Marine Corps] may potentially do on the airport on Tinian, [to] pull those together as cost-savings measure," he said.

» **Official renews talks on hybrid option**

Final PH consular mission for the year set for Oct. 19 to 22

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
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REPORTER

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with Philippine honorary consul Glicerio Arago, will be having their fifth and last mobile mission on Saipan this year.

The mobile consular service is set next week, Oct. 19 to 22, at the Mount Carmel Social Hall.

For Oct. 19, 20, and 22, the mobile mission will be open from 9am to 6pm, while on Oct. 21, it will be from 10am to 7pm.

Unlike their past mobile missions, passport applications will be done on a first come-first served basis.

According to the consulate, they will only accept the first 256 completed ePassport applications due to technical capacity of their equipment.

Arago said copies of the application forms may be obtained from Mel Santos, who may be

contacted at 233-2898.

Notarials and civil registration services will also be available as usual. To avoid delays in the processing of these applications, applicants are advised not to fold copies of their requirements.

The consulate just had their fourth mobile mission last month, after their original August schedule was cancelled due to Typhoon Soudelor.

Philippine Consul Edgar Auxilian earlier said that they will be scheduling this upcoming mobile mission prior to the closing of the registration period for overseas absentee voting on Oct. 31.

He added that they will be stopping by Rota as well, but Arago said the Guam consulate may just go straight there from Guam as it is closer than Saipan.

In September, they were able to process 448 passport applications, 160 extensions, and 243 overseas voters registrations in Saipan and Tinian.



DENNIS B. CHAN
U.S. military officials addressed reporters after a meeting with the Commonwealth Ports Authority yesterday. From left to right are, Col. Michael R. Cardoza, Brig. Gen. Andrew Toth, and Roy Tsutsui.

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FISHING

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tory limit.

Seman said the agreement is broken down into three parts: for the first year, the CNMI gets \$150,000 for the allocation; the second year the CNMI gets \$175,000 for quota transferred that year; and in the third year the CNMI gets \$200,000 for quota transferred, for a total of \$525,000.

"Whether they use it or not, it doesn't matter," Seman said of the allocation.

Since Aug. 12, about three dozen of the 145 active vessels in the Hawaii fleet were prohibited from fishing for bigeye tuna—locally known as *ahi*—in Western and Central Pacific Ocean by the National Marine Fisheries Service, which had determined that the fishing fleet had reached its 2015 quota of 3,502 metric tons.

But a final rule announced by the Service yesterday gives

the fishing industry more wiggle room.

"NMFS will allow the [CNMI] territory to allocate up to 1,000 mt each year to U.S. longline fishing vessels in a specified agreement that meets established criteria," said the Service.

"NMFS will monitor catches of longline caught bigeye tuna by the CNMI longline fisheries, including catches made by U.S. longline vessels operating under specified fishing agreements," assured the Service.

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission—an international body—distributes these quotas. However, the CNMI quota for the most part remains unused.

"We never have [reached] even one ton of big-eye [tuna] catch here in the CNMI in any given year," Seman told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The agreement

"Three dozen of [the longline vessels] have put their resources together and entered into an

agreement with our governor for the 1,000 metric ton allocation," Seman explained. "These longliner association members that have joined this particular purchase of quota are specifically listed in the agreement between the CNMI government... to take advantage of our unused allocation.

"Hawaii, as we speak, is going out fishing for the 1,000 metric tons," Seman added.

He said Inos signed the agreement in September.

"It's not really a fish that we have up here. What we have up here is yellowfin, bonita...and every now and then some albacore," Seman said.

Wespac, in a statement, said Hawaii's \$100-million fishery has reopened with the Service's announcement.

"The U.S. longline fleet had not increased its effort," said Kitty Simonds, executive director of Wespac. "But it experienced a bumper crop of bigeye, apparently as a result of the El Niño weather."

"Arbitrary quotas not linked to conservation objectives kept our boats tied at the docks," Simonds said. "The struggling vessels and small businesses they support accumulated millions of dollars in debt each month, causing untold anxiety for our local fishing community and consumers," Simonds added.

"The Hawaii fishery lands only 1 and a half percent of the bigeye tuna caught in the Pacific Ocean," Simonds added. "Our fishery was being unfairly penalized for a problem it did not create."

The Hawaii longline fishery is unique. The fish are packed in ice and brought fresh to the dock for mostly Hawaii consumption. Only 3 percent is exported. The value of the fish landed by the Hawaii fleet is about \$100 million, resulting in the port of Honolulu consistently ranking among the nation's top 10 ports in landed value, according to the NMFS Fisheries of the United States annual reports.

Boost to fishermen co-op

Seman said that portions of the quota sale would be used to build a permanent building for the local fishermen's cooperative.

"It's one of our goals and objective to help allocate some of that fund toward developing our fishery," he said. "Now we have some seed money to help start it. [The Department of] Public Works is helping out with design of the permanent co-op."

"This is a place where fishermen will not have to worry...if they are a member, after coming from days of fishing, they don't have to worry about where to sell their fish. As a member they go straight to the co-op, unload, and they are done," Seman said, noting other benefits like discounted gas and ice to pack their fish.

"They can offset their catch with their charges," Seman explained. "It's time for a permanent site."

He disclosed that architecture and design for the project is expected to be done by the end of the year, with construction beginning around the middle of next year, and a grand opening eyed by the end of next year.

Opposition

The announced rule to transfer the quota allocation has met its share of opposition. Right now, there is a pending litigation from the Conservation Council for Hawaii that challenges the framework process

that allows U.S. Pacific Island territories to allocate a portion of their bigeye tuna catch limit to longline vessels.

According to various formal comments submitted and published on the *Federal Register*, there is concern that the rule would further undermine international efforts to eliminate overfishing of bigeye tuna. There is also concern that the

new specifications would authorize Hawaii-based longliners to catch far more bigeye than ever before.

The Conservation Council for Hawaii said the proposed allocation is "illegal" and argue that the Service is enabling the fishermen to circumvent international agreements aimed at controlling the overfishing of this popular tuna species.

MOTHER

From Page 1

of his room on the 18th or 19th floor of the hotel.

The Department of Public Safety had said that police investigation showed that Jiang's death was a suicide. No other details were provided.

Police responded to Grandvrio Resort on June 12 at 6:26am after receiving a report about a possible dead person. Police met with witnesses and the hotel's staff who came across the victim, who was found on the terrace of the second floor.

The victim had no pulse and was not breathing. He was later pronounced dead at the Commonwealth Health Center.

In an interview yesterday, Yu, through an interpreter, said her son died last June 12, but that the Chinese Embassy in Los Angeles only informed her about his death last Sept. 18.

Yu said she got worried last July when she called her son's cell phone and it just kept ringing. She then started inquiring about her son's whereabouts.

Yu arrived on Saipan last Oct. 6 accompanied by Jiang's godfather, Wen Dong Li, 62, also an engineer. The two are set to return to Dalian Province on Oct. 22. It's their first time to visit Saipan.

Yu believes that prior to her son's death, he had visitors because police found a half-filled whiskey bottle and cigarette butts in his room. She said her son, a computer IT, does not drink or smoke.

The mother noted that her son had no financial problem, no family, and did not gamble.

She said a day before Jiang was found dead, he even sent her some photos, which showed him smiling and preparing to eat two huge lobsters at a restaurant in Garapan.

Yu also disclosed that she learned from a bank in China that Jiang withdrew money worth \$50,000 a few days before coming to Saipan.

Yu believes that Jiang still had a large amount of cash in

his possession when he died. She said she is waiting until now for the police to turn over her son's valuables.

Yu also expressed a desire to visit her son's hotel room.

Yu has decided to bury her son's body at the Tanapag Cemetery tomorrow, Friday, rather than cremating it because her son was a Christian.

Local businessman Ta Bun Kuy, who is a former president of the Chinese Association of Saipan, and another Chinese businessman are helping Yu arrange for Jiang's burial.

Showing Jiang's photo and a news article in a newspaper in China, Yu said her son joined the Chinese army but was discharged after sustaining some injuries during an exercise.

Yu also showed another photo of Jiang and a news article in a newspaper in China about him witnessing a robbery in progress at a store and chasing the suspect last year. Jiang subsequently arrested the suspect and recovered the stolen 20,000 in Chinese money. The Chinese government later presented Jiang with an award for his heroic deed.

Yu said it was interesting news in China because most people would just turn away or remain quiet if they witness a crime.

Jiang came alone to Saipan last May 22.

She said it was her son's first visit to the island, but police told her that it was his second visit.

She said her son, who is independent-minded, wanted to stay on Saipan, study U.S. law, and learn how to speak English.

Yu is also confused because someone deposited \$7.40 in her son's bank account last August.

Yu said it was only last Sept. 18 when the Chinese Embassy in Los Angeles called her about her son's death due to a fall from his hotel room.

"It's impossible," Yu said, referring to the police's finding of suicide. She noted that there was no suicide note and she could not think of any reason for her son to end his life.

LABOR

From Page 2

consider the idea of one person being lost to the Commonwealth, let alone thousands because we need to reduce [CW workers] to zero," Sablan said. "It's just a fact that we can't live without a foreign workforce because we don't have sufficient local workforce."

It will take an act of Congress

to restore the discretionary authority on the CW.

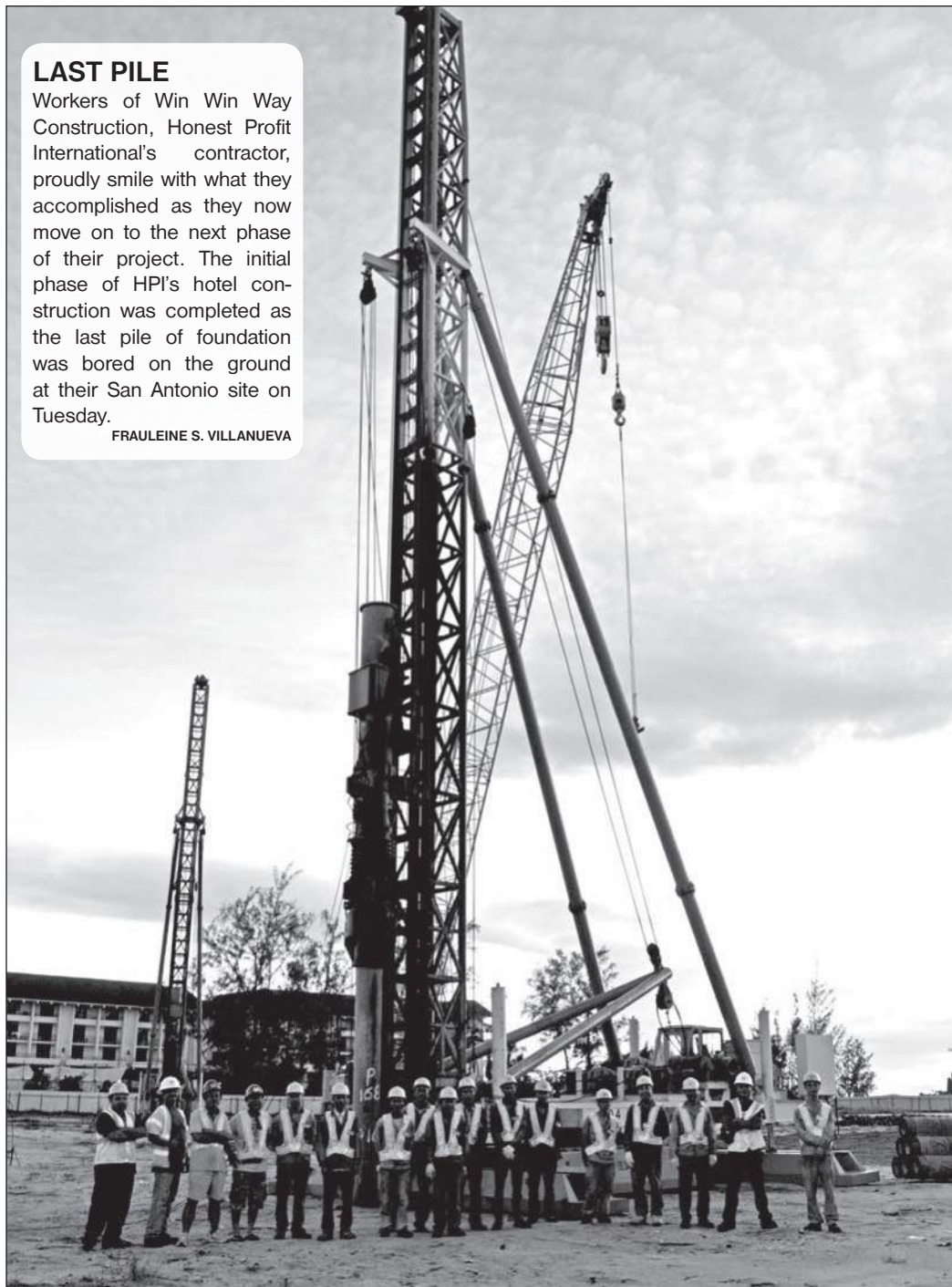
Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) earlier said there is no executive way of getting around the 2019 deadline.

Asked if it would be possible to extend the CW program, Sablan said what is needed is to change the program altogether. "If we're going to do something, we need to change the program rather than this present structure of the CW," he added.

LAST PILE

Workers of Win Win Way Construction, Honest Profit International's contractor, proudly smile with what they accomplished as they now move on to the next phase of their project. The initial phase of HPI's hotel construction was completed as the last pile of foundation was bored on the ground at their San Antonio site on Tuesday.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA



TROPICAL

From Page 1

is forecast to slow down during the next 12 hours. ...Maximum sustained winds have increased to 40 mph. Tropical Storm Champi is forecasted to continue intensifying during the next several days," the agency said.

Residents are being urged to

continue preparedness steps to include: securing loose objects around the house and/or removing and securing objects to prevent them from being picked up and propelled by possible, strong winds.

Residents living in tents, damaged homes, or homes with compromised safety are strongly encouraged to take precautionary measures and to antici-

pate heavy rain, strong winds, and possible flooding.

For more detailed preparedness steps, call the CNMI Emergency Operations Center at 237-8000.

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center will be monitoring the movement of Tropical Storm Champi and will be issuing bulletins as they become available. The public is being urged to continue to monitor

the official bulletins that will be available through local media sources and NOAA weather radio broadcast on 162.5 megahertz or call CNMI Emergency Operations Center dispatch center at 237-8000 or visit www.cnmi-hsem.gov.mp. For the Northern Islands, contact the EOC dispatch center at high frequency single side band radio on frequency 5.205.0. (*Saipan Tribune*)



CLEANUP & COLLABORATION

Best Sunshine International's Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility team continues to move forward with its weekly cleanup drive with the support of the community. This past weekend, the team led by chief service officer Tao Xing and director Rita Chong and their volunteers, partnered with community leaders such as Rep. George Camacho of Precinct 4, Capt. Georgia Cabrera and Sgt. Manny Quitano of the Department of Corrections, Brooke Nevitt of MINA and Adeline Wisienig and Evan Nally of Americorps in the cleanup of Pau Pau Beach.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IN BURGLARY CASE AT STORE OF FORMER ROTA MAYOR

Man acquitted of burglary but found guilty of theft, mischief

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A jury acquitted Benjamin Mafnas Hattori yesterday of burglary but Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho convicted him of theft and criminal mischief in connection with the burglary of a store on Rota owned by former mayor Melchor Mendiola.

After deliberating for an hour in Superior Court on Rota, the six jurors returned a not guilty verdict on the charge of burglary.

Camacho, who decided the misdemeanor charges, found the 37-year-old Hattori guilty of theft and criminal mischief.

Sentencing will be on Dec. 4, 2015, at 10:30am at the Rota Courthouse.

Camacho said he has considered the testimony and credibility of witnesses and the arguments of assistant attorney general Emily Cohen and court-appointed defense counsel Colin M. Thompson.

The judge found credible all four government witnesses: a cashier at the Harvest Store, an accountant at Harvest Store, police officer Joseph Q. Camacho, and lead police investigator George Barcinas.

Barcinas testified that he received a tip that Hattori was involved in the burglary at Harvest Store on May 25, 2012, and that the suspect willingly confessed to breaking the store's glass door and cutting his hand in the process.

Camacho said Hattori knew

that breaking the glass door would help his co-defendants—Daniel Rangamar and another juvenile—gain access into the store.

Rangamar has already pleaded guilty.

Hattori argued that all he did was break the glass door but did not participate in the theft. Camacho found this unbelievable.

"The manner of how the door was broken—the lower part—indicates that it was done so to allow a person to enter into the building," the judge noted.

Camacho said Hattori's own confession puts him at the crime scene in the middle of the night and the fact that Hattori confessed to using a cinder block and taking three hard strikes to break the glass door indicates the intent to get into the building.

"This was no accident or a simple damage to property. There was purpose and intent to enter into the building," he pointed out.

He said Hattori's actions helped others to gain access into the building to take cigarettes, the cash register, and coins worth \$59.

Camacho said Hattori's discussion with his co-defendants about the money and cigarettes indicated that he was concerned about his "share of the loot." The cigarettes and coins were never recovered.

Camacho said the government has proven theft and criminal mischief beyond a reasonable doubt.

The trial began last Tuesday.



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JROTC instructor allegedly sexually assaults cadet

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A then-Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps instructor at Marianas High School allegedly sexually assaulted the school's

JROTC female battalion commander in May.

The Office of the Attorney General filed an information charging Ernest R. Torres, 58, with sexual assault in the second degree and assault and battery.

The Superior Court's clerk of court summoned Torres to appear in court on Oct. 19 at 9am.

The clerk of court also summoned Docomo Pacific and requested the company to submit to the OAG telephone records

for a certain cell phone covering the period from May 12 to June 12, 2015. The summons did not indicate who owns the cell phone.

Assistant attorney general Matthew C. Baisley stated in the in-

formation that Torres, at the time the JROTC instructor at MHS, "knowingly and repeatedly and without consent engaged in sexual contact" with a female student on May 12, 2015.

At the time of the incident,

the MHS student was 18 years old and a battalion commander of the school's JROTC, Baisley said.

The prosecutor said Torres was the victim's JROTC instructor.

Man allegedly threatens another with machete

A man allegedly swung a machete at the former boyfriend of his mother who came to their house in Chalan Kanoa to get his bicycle on Friday afternoon.

Ethen D. Sanchez, 18, also allegedly cut the tires of the bicycle after his mother's former boyfriend refused to leave their property.

Sanchez was taken to Superior Court on Tuesday for assault with a dangerous weapon,

criminal mischief, and disturbing the peace.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo kept the \$10,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for Oct. 22 at 9am. Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig was appointed as counsel for Sanchez.

Police detective Daniel Maliuyaf stated in his report that three police officers responded on Friday to a store in Chalan Kanoa, where the victim

called police that his bicycle had been stolen.

The victim told police that Sanchez swung a machete at him and cut his bicycle's tires. He then showed the officers the bicycle with cut tires.

According to the victim, he went to the house of his former girlfriend to get his bicycle. Sanchez, who was at the house, cursed him and told him to leave.

Sanchez then allegedly took

a machete and threatened the victim with it, swinging it about two to three inches from his chest.

The mother restrained Sanchez and pulled him away. The victim left the place and went to a store where he called police.

Police said Sanchez admitted to the allegations because his mother's former boyfriend refused to leave their house. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Vets to pay less for driver's license fees

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
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REPORTER

Military veterans from the CNMI will get discounted fees for driver's licenses via a new law signed by Gov. Eloy S. Inos on Tuesday.

Public Law 19-10 gives CNMI veterans a discounted operator's license fee benefit.

The law amends a previous Commonwealth code and states that a fee of \$40 will be paid for each operator's license issued, with the exemption of an operator's license issued to a veteran. A fee of \$10 shall be paid for each duplicate or substitute license. The operators' license fee for a veteran shall be 25 percent less than the fee charged for a similar operator's license, the bill states.

"The Legislature finds that many brave men and women of the Commonwealth willingly an-

swered the call to defend the freedoms we are enjoying by fighting for our country not only in foreign lands but also in our islands.

"A meaningful way to show our gratitude is by lowering the operator's license fees for veterans," the bill states. "Other states and territories have provided such benefits to its veterans and it is time that the Commonwealth further honors the contributions and the sacrifices made by the sons and daughters of the Commonwealth that have led to the freedom we enjoy today," the bill states.

The bill states that in order to avail of the benefit, the veteran must have served 180 consecutive active service days; must be honorably discharged from the United States Armed Forces; and that they must be certified eligible by the CNMI Veterans Office.

Permit for Animu statue in the works

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office, together with the Liberation Day Committee and Skywalker Communications Group, is seeking permission to set up a statue of Animu, the Liberation Day mascot.

According to Mayor David M. Apatang, the committee and the group wrote a letter to the Department of Public Lands about this.

"We are communicating with Public Lands," Apatang said. "We're trying to find a place for it."

The letter, according to Apatang, sought to set up an appointment with DPL to talk about the building of the Animu statue but the department cancelled the meeting.

"We're supposed to meet and discuss but they cancelled and they said that most likely the Secretary [of Public Lands] will approve," Apatang said.

Apatang wasn't able to give specifications on the statue with regards to its size and what material will be used other than that it will be big and permanent.

"As long as they don't deface it or anything like that," Apatang said.

He said they are looking at the Paseo de Marianas in Garapan as the place where to have a statue or two of Animu.

"It's the place where people go to. The tourists...can stand there in front of Animu and take a picture," Apatang said.

Starting last 4th of July, Animu is and will be the Liberation Day mascot for years to come. It is a latte stone-shaped figure but personified and named after a Chamorro word for encouragement.

Apatang said Animu will not replace the Saipan-da mascot.

"We're not trying to replace Saipan-da. Saipan-da is the CNMI mascot for tourism, this one is a Liberation Day mascot," he said.

Senate passes bill that lifts the salary cap for CPA managers

The Senate has passed a bill to exempt managers of the Commonwealth Ports Authority from the salary limitations imposed by law.

Senate Bill 19-49 exempts these managers from pay limits imposed by the Compensation Adjustment Act. It exempts CPA managers on all CNMI islands from government salary ceiling restrictions. In essence, CPA managers could receive a salary of more than \$50,000 per year with the bill.

The bill calls CPA managers "underpaid" given their duties and responsibilities at each air-

port or seaport.

The bill states that seaport and airport managers operate complex 24-hour port facilities that are heavily regulated by federal agencies.

"The Legislature, however, finds that despite their extensive duties and responsibilities, CPA managers currently earn approximately the same as top paid civil service managers with less duties and responsibilities," the bill states.

The bill was introduced by Senate President Victor B. Hocog (Ind-Rota). **(Dennis B. Chan)**

WIOA Dislocated Worker Funding Program

If any of these categories apply to you, please contact WIA.

Category A: General Dislocated Workers. To qualify, an individual must meet the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment;
2. Is eligible for or has exhausted entitlement to unemployment compensation; OR has been employed or attached to the workforce for a duration sufficient to demonstrate to WIOA, but is not eligible for unemployment compensation due to insufficient earnings or having performed services for an employer that were not covered under a state unemployment compensation law; and
3. Is unlikely to return to a previous industry or occupation.

Category B: Plant Closure. To qualify, an individual must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. Has been terminated or laid off, or has received a notice of termination or layoff, from employment as a result of any permanent closure of, or any substantial layoff at, plant, facility, or enterprise;
2. Is employed at a facility at which the employer has made a general announcement that such facility close within 180 days; or
3. For purpose of eligibility to receive services other than training, intensive or supportive services under WIOA, is employed at a facility at which the employer has made general announcement that such facility will close.

Category C: Self Employed or Unemployed. To qualify, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Was self employed (including employment as a farmer, a rancher, or a fisherman) but is unemployed as a result of general economic conditions in the community in which the individual resides or because of natural disasters.

Category D: is a displaced homemaker;

DISPLACED HOMEMAKER—The term "displaced homemaker" means an individual who has been providing unpaid services to family members in the home and who—

- (A) (i) has been dependent on the income of another family member but is no longer supported by that income; or (ii) is the dependent spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code) and whose family income is significantly reduced because of a deployment (as defined in section 991(b) of title 10, United States Code, or pursuant to paragraph (4) of such section), a call or order to active duty pursuant to a provision of law referred to in section 101(a)(13)(B) of title 10, United States Code, a permanent change of station, or the service-connected (as defined in section 101(16) of title 38, United States Code) death or disability of the member; and
- (B) is unemployed or underemployed and is experiencing difficulty in obtaining or upgrading employment.

Category E:

1. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty (as defined in section 101(d)(1) of title 10, United States Code), and who has experienced a loss of employment as a direct result of relocation to accommodate a permanent change in duty station of such member; or
2. Is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty and who meets the criteria described in Displaced Homemaker Definition (B).

You may be able to qualify for services under WIOA's Dislocated Worker Funding Program. All other program eligibility requirements apply.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Saipan: (670) 664-1704/1707/1708/1757 • **Fax:** (670) 664-1710
Email: gov.wia@pticom.com

Too Risky

The casino industry in China is slowing. China's economy is slowing.

Chinese casinos are facing hard economic times. Why would we think that a casino in Saipan will do better than a casino in China? A quick review of the news on the internet will tell you that this casino is too risky for CNMI. Do we really want to take the chance? No, we don't. This is why we shouldn't put all our eggs in one basket. For 37 years, Kan Pacific has been a responsible and valuable tenant. Forcing it out of business for a speculative idea is economically irresponsible.

Macau casinos experience 14th straight monthly revenue decline

Las Vegas Review-Journal - August 3, 2015

Odds stacked against Macau's casino operators as GDP plunges

Financial Times - August 31, 2015

Macau gaming plunges 36pc, new casinos fail to spark visits

The Maiay May Online - September 1, 2015

Gaming revenues tumble as China cracks down on corruption

The Economist - July 29, 2015

Macau June Casino Revenue Decline Looks Like A Bottom To Some, A Trap To Others

Forbes - July 12, 2015



Renewing Kan Pacific's lease is economically responsible, makes good sense and is simply the right thing to do for our island and our families.

ESFDB students dominate poster, essay contests



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The 2015 Bisita Luta poster and essay contest winners, from left, Éclair Ladao, Angelo Lucero, and Brylle Reyel.

This year students of Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja participated in the 2015 Bisita Luta Essay and Poster contest sponsored by the Community Project Group Organization chaired by Aubry M. Hocog.

The contest was part of Rota's annual fiesta of San Francisco de Borja, the island's patron saint.

The school is happy to announce that 8th grade student Angelo S. Lucero won first place in the Bisita Luta Essay Contest under the 6th to 8th Grade Category.

In the Bisita Luta Poster Contest, 4th grade student Éclair M. Ladao won first place while classmate Brylle P. Reyel won third place.

"I would like to thank all of the students that participated and congratulations to our win-

ners. I would also like to thank the sponsors of the event and all of the teachers' continued support in helping to educate about the Bisita Luta theme," said administrator/principal Carmen H. Atalig.

"To win is just incredible. We participated to show our support, especially to our patron saint, San Francisco de Borja, and also for our class grade. Winning was the last thing in our minds," said Lucero.

"I feel proud of myself because drawing something to promote Rota and the island's patron saint, San Francisco de Borja, was worth it," said Ladao.

"I am thrilled that I won but most of all it's about showing our support to our Rota patron saint, San Francisco de Borja," said Reyel.

"Through their essays and

artwork, these students captured the rich history and vital importance of the island's patron saint, San Francisco de Borja, and the theme of Bisita Luta," board chair Edward Maratita, Jr. said. "It's great to see students having fun while celebrating Luta's annual fiesta."

Students from public and private schools on Rota participated in both contests. Participants used three questions as a guide in coming up with their entries: "What makes Rota a unique island?" "Why do people come to Rota?" and "Why should people come to Rota?"

The awards presentation was held Oct. 10, 2015, at the Chamorro Village to honor the winning students.

The administration, faculty and staff, students, and board of directors would like to express their appreciation to Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig and his staff. **(ESFDB)**

GCA congratulates October 2015 PGFC winners

The administration, faculty and staff, and parents of Grace Christian Academy would like to extend their congratulations to the following winners and everyone who participated last Oct. 10, 2015, in the Primary Grades Forensic Conference competition at Mount Carmel School. This competition encourages public and private school students to participate in and become proficient in reading, public speaking, and interpretations.

K-2 DIVISION

Impromptu Speaking A

Rafael Busby, 1st place
Aiden Gerard Camacho, 2nd place
Min Su Andy Kim, 3rd place
Ioane Jude Camacho, 4th place

Impromptu Speaking B

Maria Sofia Gomez, 1st place
Aiyana Victory Fatialofa, 2nd place

Impromptu Speaking C

Nestor Ablog Jr., 1st place
Marisa Wang, 4th place
Akira Ito, 5th place

Readers Forum Masters A

William Matthew Cano, 4th place

Dramatic Interpretation A

William Matthew Cano, 2nd place

Humorous Interpretation A

Llyanna Jaira Manalang, 3rd place
Akira Ito, 4th place

Duo Interpretation A

Azriel Fatialofa, 3rd place
Sena Woo, 3rd place
Aiden Gerard Camacho, 4th place
Min Su Andy Kim, 4th place

3-5 DIVISION Impromptu Speaking A

Julia Jinang, 1st place
Sara Elizabeth Keaton, 2nd place
Kei Lizama, 5th place

Impromptu Speaking B

Jacob Anthony De Leon Guerrero, 1st place
Soleil Lamar, 2nd place
Ryan Daproza, 3rd place

Readers Forum A

Tae Hee Kim, 1st place
Julia Jinang, 2nd place
Julianna Magtalas, 3rd place
Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 5th place

Readers Forum B

Min Seok Alex Kim, 5th place

Readers Forum Masters A

Matthew Gabriel Ernest, 1st place
Steven Adriatico, 2nd place
Ryan Daproza, 4th place

Dramatic Interpretation A

Steven Adriatico, 1st place
Moir Grace Ernest, 3rd place
Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 4th place

Humorous Interpretation A

Moir Grace Ernest, 3rd place
Tae Hee Kim, 4th place

Duo Interpretation A

Jacob Anthony De Leon Guerrero, 1st place
Matthew Gabriel Ernest, 1st place

Teacher/Coach

K5 Teacher, Sheryl Joy Prieto
1st Grade Teacher, Rosanna Lopez
2nd Grade Teacher, Miriam Dilse
3rd Grade Teacher, Maria Gerecke

4th Grade Teacher, Tammy Dammer
5th Grade Teacher, Grace Duran
PGFC Coordinator, Esther Manzano

Judges/Volunteers- Rosanna Lopez, Maria Gerecke, Susanna Gerecke, Grace Duran, Bel Busby, Bethany Garfil, Yujin Lee, Minna Ito, Alice Kim, Melody Woo, Jewel Cubangbang, Sein Woo, Esther Kim, Christy Lee, Angela Kim. **(GCA)**



Grace Christian Academy's PGFC winners have their picture taken inside the GCA campus.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

October 15, 2004

Inmate allegedly assaults DOC officer for betel nut

Police responded to the Division of Corrections facility early Thursday morning after receiving a report that an inmate allegedly assaulted a DOC officer, according to the Department of Public Safety. DPS public information officer Eric F. David disclosed yesterday that 22-year-old allegedly grabbed 20-year-old DOC officer Edward Dela Cruz's shirt and threatened to "beat him up." The officer was not injured during the encounter. The officer then met with his supervisor and reported the incident. David said Sgt. Joseph Pangelinan of DOC then called DPS at 1:40am, reporting an assault and battery incident.

Benavente defends education tax credit

Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente expressed his opposition yesterday to a repeal proposal on the Education Tax Credit, citing that it would affect the over 15,000 students currently enrolled in various schools, as well as "significant community institutions" that are at risk of losing financial support if the repeal takes effect. Rep. Janet Maratita introduced House Bill 14-238 in hopes of repealing the ETC, or Public Law 10-73, citing that the Commonwealth "loses significant revenue" as a result of the law. In a letter to Maratita, Benavente urged her to reconsider her propos-

al and "retain the ETC for the benefit of our entire community." Since 1999, a total of \$3.3 million has been donated to education under the ETC law.

October 15, 2005

Used car sales declining

Despite the economic hardship, CNMI motorists still opt to buy brand new cars over used cars. In fact, the total number of sold used cars has been decreasing in the last three years. Statistics from the Commonwealth Auto Dealers Association showed that in calendar year 2002, there were 476 used cars sold. The number went down to 399 in 2003, and further down to 380 in 2004. As of September this year, there were 241 used cars sold. As of September 2005, there were 1,221 brand new cars sold in the CNMI. During the same period in 2004, there were 1,218 sold vehicles. In 2004, brand new cars sold totaled 1,612 while in 2003, the number was 1,266. In 2002, cars sold totaled 904 while in 2001, it was 1,004.

Taiwanese TV show to shoot on Saipan

A Taiwanese television producer and a media executive flew to Saipan this week for onsite inspection in preparation for a three-day filming here later this month. Ed Ho, TTV producer, and James Lin, managing director of ID-SON Communication Co. Ltd., said they found Saipan to be "an ideal place" for filming for a prime-time TV game show, which they translated as "Happy Go, Go." As a producer, Ho said that Saipan "is an easy place for filming." He said that the show's hosts, contestants, and staff, who love to travel, would enjoy Saipan. Amy Lu, Dai-Ichi Kids Club manager, who served as interpreter for the two guests, said that the TV game show team

would come on Oct. 26 to film in 20 different locations. The group is expected to leave on Oct. 28. Saipan received 497 visitors from Taiwan in FY 2004 and 2,557 in FY 2005.

October 15, 2008

Emergency shutdown of two power engines causes outage

The emergency shutdown of two power engines at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base triggered outages in some areas on Saipan Tuesday. Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Antonio Muña said yesterday that due to the emergency shutdown, CUC was unable to temporarily generate adequate electrical power to meet the island demand. Muna said that on Tuesday at 1am power engine no. 3 at Power Plant 1 was shut down for emergency repairs on cylinder head no. 12 due to a damaged exhaust valve. He said the mechanical repair was completed at 5pm that day. Power engine no. 6, on the other hand, was shut down Friday for emergency repair on the turbocharger support. Repair work was completed Tuesday at 5:30pm.

CUC gets proposals from 2 firms for overhaul work

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has received proposals from two companies that are interested in overhauling two engines at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base that were left undone by a previous contractor. CUC executive director Antonio Muña told Saipan Tribune that they received two proposals and that one is much higher than the other. CUC put out in the latter part of July the emergency Request for Proposals for the overhaul work on power engines no. 5 and 7. CUC is looking at generating 22 megawatts from these engines when overhaul work is completed.

CNMI gets chance to show preparedness lessons learned

Typhoons, as we witnessed with Soudelor, are a double threat. They can produce both dangerously high winds and widespread torrential rains.

Slow moving storms and tropical storms moving into mountainous regions tend to produce especially heavy rain. This not only damages or destroys homes directly with water and wind, but can also damage indirectly with landslides or mudslides. Flash flooding is also a possibility, and flooding near streams or low-lying areas may persist for several days or more after a storm.

"With another storm approaching the CNMI, there are still things you can do in this last day or two to protect yourself, your family and your property," said Deputy Federal Coordinating Officer Ryan Brown.

"Securing loose objects around the house and/or removing and securing objects to prevent them from being picked up and propelled by possible, strong winds," said Marvin Seman, special assistant for Homeland Security & Emergency Management. "Also, residents living in tents, damaged homes, or homes with compromised safety are strongly encouraged to take precautionary measures and to anticipate heavy rain, strong winds, and possible flooding."

Other protective actions include:

- Make sure you have enough food and water for all family members and pets for three days.

- Fill your car's gas tank, both in case evacuation becomes necessary and in case gas stations are disabled after the storm.

- Secure your property.

- Permanent storm shutters offer the best protection for windows.

- A second option is to board up windows with 5/8 inch marine plywood.

- Tape does not prevent win-

dows from breaking.

- Install straps or clips to fasten your roof to the frame structure more securely. This will reduce roof damage. It may reduce overall damage, because homes that lose a roof usually suffer serious subse-

quent damage.

- Be sure trees and shrubs around your home are well trimmed.

- Clear loose and clogged rain gutters and downspouts.

- If you have a boat, secure it. More on these and many

other preparedness topics can be found at ready.gov, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's website dedicated to helping people and businesses prepare for whatever Mother Nature may throw at them. **(FEMA)**

JROTC TEAMS UP TO CLEAN UP

On Saturday, Oct. 11, 2015, all three of the JROTC high school units of Kagman High School, Saipan Southern High School, and Marianas High School came together to work as a big team to clean up the Mt. Carmel Cemetery. The 180 cadets removed debris from Typhoon Soudelor that devastated Saipan on Aug. 3, 2015. The cadets raked and got rid of trash in preparation for All Souls Day on Nov. 2, 2015. By the end of the day, the cemetery was in much better condition. Two industrial-sized containers were filled to the brim with trash, thank to the cadets' efforts.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Report: States bilking millions from food stamp program

A certain amount of fraud is to be expected in large government benefits programs, but the fraud usually is committed by beneficiaries, not state governments.

According to a report last month by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's inspector general, however, states have been massaging data to reduce their overpayment error rates in order to receive bonus payments or avoid penalties from the federal government. The hit to taxpayers in payment errors: more than \$184 million.

A key contributing factor is that the states perform their own quality control audits. The USDA's Food and Nutrition Service conducts a smaller review as well, but it does so based on a subset of the information provided by the states, and federal reviewers are usually reluctant to challenge states' determinations. "(T)he bias in the (quality control) process was an inevitable consequence of states competing against each other for bonus money," one state's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program director conceded.

The report also found that states used outside consultants to train quality-control review staff to reduce error rates by manipulating information, such as by contacting beneficiaries after the fact and encouraging them to report additional household or medical expenses, or averaging income over a longer period than normal, to make beneficiaries eligible.

It additionally criticized the federal government for a policy since 2009 that allows states to confer "Broad Based Categorical Eligibility" status on beneficiaries, as long as they have gross incomes of less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level and can be provided with a brochure, website address or phone number about other state welfare programs. This allowed applicants to bypass the usual income and asset requirements.

One BBCE beneficiary was allowed to remain in the program despite income 4.6 times the federal poverty level. Moreover, BBCE beneficiaries were excluded from error-rate data. The FNS' quality control procedures advised that such households would "never (be) ineligible regardless of income," and that reviews did "not identify any eligibility errors" for them.

To introduce some more integrity into the system, the food stamp program should ditch the "two-tiered" (state and federal) quality control process, as the National Research Council recommended 28 years ago, and align its BBCE policies with federal regulations. In addition, it should utilize recovery auditing, in which contractors are paid based on a percentage of the savings they recover from payment errors, as has been done to a limited extent in the Medicare program.

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"Can I show you one of the assault weapons?"

We medicate our moods and are the worse for it

We insist on all-natural products in our baby food and household cleaners; why don't we demand natural moods for ourselves?

Americans suffer from an overabundance of processed foods, synthetic hormones, virtual relationships, silicone breasts and, now, fake moods, brought about by an ever-increasing percentage of us taking psychiatric medications.

The patients I meet in my Manhattan psychiatric practice are stressed, sad and scared. Many lead lives with little movement, sunshine or human touch, spent staring into a computer screen, under fluorescent lights. Chronically sleep-deprived and eating poorly, they feel terrible. Women shuttling between work (where they earn less than men) and home, straddling child care and aging parents, are stretched to their limit. They escape by drinking, texting, shopping or eating. My patients want pills to make them feel better but, honestly, I'm afraid it's to make them feel less.

Many psychiatric patients are truly sick and need medication. It is my job to understand the risks and benefits of these meds, and I've seen them do a lot of good for people in real pain. But there is a big push to lower the standards, especially for women, for being sick and needing prescription drugs.

The pharmaceutical industry spends billions in advertising and billions more paying researchers and prescribers directly. Women are inundated with messages that it's pathological to feel sad or scared, with a barrage of ads that advance the question from, "Should I take an antidepressant?" to "Which one?"

Recently my psychiatric journals have been full of glossy ads promoting a new diagnosis, "binge eating disorder." A picture of a sad, lonely woman surrounded by junk food sits underneath text introducing me to the diagnosis, encouraging me to ask my female patients if they sometimes regret how much they eat, because they may be ashamed to talk about it.

These ads were paid for by Shire Pharmaceuticals, the same company that makes the amphetamine Adderall. But Adderall has lost its patent, hence Vyvanse, a new, ultra, long-acting amphetamine. Shire's newer ADHD ads also target women, recommending Vyvanse for 12-hour control of symptoms "throughout her day."

It's getting harder to remain unmedicated in the Altered States of America. Street drugs, speed and heroin, have come in, out of the cold, and are now Adderall or Vyvanse, OxyContin or Zohydro as Big Pharma expands into the recreational market. More women are becoming addicted to opiates and dying of overdoses, and more women are taking antidepressants and sleeping pills than ever before. We are medicating away our sensitivities and we are all the worse for it. Women are being convinced that it's pathological to be emotional.

The first thing a woman says after she starts crying is, "I'm sorry." We are uncomfortable with expressed emotion, and we have been

By **JULIE HOLLAND**
The Seattle Times

Psychiatrist Julie Holland is author of *Moody Bitches: The Truth About The Drugs You're Taking, the Sleep You're Missing, the Sex You're Not Having, and What's Really Making You Crazy*. She is editor of *The Pot Book: A Complete Guide to Cannabis*. She wrote this for The Seattle Times.



socialized to shut it down. But by suppressing this sensitivity, we're stifling a piece that we need, that our partners and families need, and that the world needs. When we are overmedicated as a nation, we lose our empathy, the natural connection to humanity.

After 20 years of psychiatric practice, it's clear to me that women today need more soothing than ever. Beyond our jobs and families, we are exposed to traumas worldwide, courtesy of our phones. Our empathy goes out across the country to kids shot on campuses; globally, weapons bought with our taxes kill doctors and children. We are wired for empathy, but it is all too much. For many, psychiatric medications are a temporary Band-Aid; adding amphetamines is not going to help. For real solutions, we have to look beyond the prescription medical model and toward a more holistic approach.

With soaring drug prices and insurance premiums, it is no wonder a revolution is slowly brewing, with more Americans taking their health care into their own hands. They are rediscovering an herbal model of health care, using remedies with names like Phoenix Tears and Charlotte's Web. The medicinal cannabis community is growing, educating and supporting one another. There is no patenting a flower.

Cannabis is an ancient medicinal plant, a weed that cleans the air better than trees and puts nutrients into the soil. The crop yields tons of hemp seeds—a complete vegetarian protein, oil for biodiesel and fiber for paper, canvas, rope, building materials, compostable packaging, and the list goes on. Forget Donald Trump, hemp can make America great again.

And, of course, there's the flower of the female plant: a pain-killing, anti-inflammatory, metabolism-regulating, cancer-killing, heart-opening medicine. Side effects include a shift in perception, a debilitation that may help you reconnect to the earth, to your own body and to each other. Cannabis can help you to feel more, not less.

Am I suggesting you ditch the antidepressants, opiates and amphetamines in favor of a natural remedy? Not always. But the balance needs to shift. And I do at least want to pose the question: If we have a choice, isn't a natural mood better than a synthetic one?

Halom suenan katma

Nai ta gacha` 65 años, memetgot ha` hinassota na libianu ta mueba fuetsan hoben taiguihe antes. Lau, kasi maulegña `an ta pasensiayen antes de tana` lam-men maisa hit. Tatnai sisida, dios mihu!

Magahet na dañkulu i difrensia. I macheteghu ni esta bibiñgbiñg `an hu sague` antes gumupu gi primet sakudida. Mauleg na guaha kolat alamle ya tinagam `sino guaha hunu` lamem guihe na talo`ane. I kuha hu pega gi un` banda kadu` tihu li`e`. Ayu baliyu manrikohen gunut yan matai hagon choda. Nahoñg na cho`chu`, diariu.

Sumehayu`, dispues sigeyu` chumaleg ni maliñgun fuetsaghu. Esta kahulu`yu` ya sige hunu`e` animu mamokat pot para asegura na maseha adai mamokat sisiña ha` trabiha. Hombre ni este esta maliñgu lokue` linistoghu. Taiguel!

Pa`gu, achog patgon dikiki `an husoda` gi entalu` estanten tenda, hu birayu` ensegidas. Rason? Pot no u tataga` karate si pindehu ya u lachaiyu` muna` fangagau asi`i` sin presisu. Este i mangagau asi`i` gaige `nau na lamasa guihe hulu` as San Pedro.

Pale` Tradision: Gi lamegai na okasion selebrasion dinaña` natibu guaha kulan apuntau na pale` tradision malag sanmena ya manaitai. Ti hu tuñgu` haf` guaha na tinayuyot lau enfin kulan ginagau bendision Cham-oru! Manu na patte gi estorianChamoru `nai gaige este na modun pale`?

Estorian espantau i Chamoru ya i malagu yan kumahat patte dia-riu gi hinanaña. Tai tiempu mama` sabiun kanton kantit. Sige de umentalu` fanatukan para u satban maisague`.

Na ti magahet na mapega ni antigu na manamko`-ta kalaberan mañainan niha gi halom apusientu kumu sagradu na onru. Huñgan, magagagau lokue` ayudu `nai guaha mafafana` dañkulu na chinatsaga `sino ira. Lau taiguel ennuu i modun pale` guihe na tiempu. Pues anog na mafabrika este na tiempu pot guaha manmalago manpale` totut!

Dispues tinatiye ni kantan anaku` na esalau (chant). Pot uttimu be-sis, manu gi estorian natibu nai gaige este na patte? Hu komprende (sa` damañkulon Lali Fo` yu`) na gaige este i chant kumu patte gi kutturan Karolinas. Dañkulu signifikasioña kau na`magof pat triste na okasion. Otru mafabrika pot guaha gumuife manmadren esalau kulan katen utak gi pueñge.

Este na hinanau masusesede `nai mattu i asunto gi puntan cha-lan kometsiu (commercialization of culture). Ti rason este para un` fandage haf` tinatemu! Na dinanche yan diberas haf` gaige gi in` checheneg na baila siha sin in` sakrifisia dignun tradision natibu!

Hinimidde: Tres biha sessu mattu gi hinasoghu teñga `an sigeyu` mona gi diariu na nobenahu. Hu repasa haf` na mangaige ya mo-nana gi hinasoghu na oga`an. Siha i tres kulan umesgaihonyu` mona gi ineyag humidde na linala` gi manu i guaha.

Agradesimientu para siha gi todun pinasensia yan ma`ug na akonsehun niha. Hu sen agrade se i manñge` konkariñu siha na palabra mientras malalasa apaga`hu `sino ha`ihu. Magahet sumen nama`aggem finu` pasensia na saina.

Pinasensia: Mientras mas hit amku` mas lokue` umanchu sen-sian pinasensia. Mauleg na tinilaika gi karera pot para muñga na u totbus hagian metbius sin presisu. Dispues taya` presisu na para unna` chathinassu hau mismu. Yute` gi un` banda ya un` atilige fa-sumu! Homlu` i para unna` guaha minagof gi ha`animu.

Pinegsai: Un` tiempu mamogsaiyu` babue yan manog gi tatten guma`. Mauleg na tane` lau pot manhihita yan i mituñg i kelat todun dia yan tula noche. Namagof na offisiu piot gi finatton mañelu ya sige grasiosu na konbetsasion yan fina` chaleg. Estague` finapos megai na famaguon guine gi sisienta yan sitienta na sakan siha.

Minesñgon: Namatman un` malañgu (kanset estomagu) gi ut-

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



timu agonias `nai sige ha` i biha hana`e` agrade simientu i bisita yan ayu i umasistegue`. Mesñgon para i pinadesiña lau sentimalefa hayegue` umasiste. Tihu komprende.

Guse` Kanai: Umasudayu` yan amighu ni dumomu` un` Choseñg giya Magpi` pot finanu`e` ni kalulot paluman ta`lu`. Magahet na lache i para un` dispone hau kulan mohon hagu ha` i paire gi chalan publiku. Tuñgu` manrespeta! Hu atan i amiguu ya umachatge ham pot kasi malagu ha` mandomu` para u li`e` na sisiña ha` mandagau akagueña.

Maneska: Mientreas tantu, sige i tropa manmaneska gi kanton pantalan Susupe. Gi este na eskalera `nai siña un` huñgog kables sentimienton otdinariu gi halom tautau-ta. Ni unu` kinetbabata pues chagu` i chansa para u fan gotgan gi finu` niha. Tunas yan frañku masañgan siñienten niha i los probes.

Diberas: I amtau yan menhalom na gaseteru ti u faisen, pot ihemplo, i ma`gas polisia haf` masusesede. Siempre bai` adiñgan yan i mas sessu mana` pili`au gi halom rimulinon disision tat kumu i corporal. Debi u kuentos pot satbasioña yan otro siha empleau. Gigon un` kuentuse i ma`gas magpu` kontodu nobenan talo`ane.

The secret toll of spousal abuse

By MARIA E. GARAY-SERRATOS
LOS ANGELES TIMES

In recent years, medical science has uncovered the high risk and devastating effects of traumatic brain injury, or TBI, among U.S. combat soldiers and athletes, especially football and hockey players. What if a vastly greater population were also suffering these effects: women and children living with the consequences of domestic violence?

For as long as I can remember, my mother took aspirin every day, complaining of unbearable headaches. Sometimes she locked herself in the bedroom with the lights off, asking me to take my siblings outside because she couldn't tolerate the noise. As she got older, her naps grew longer and her sensitivity to light and noise intensified. By her 50s, her memory had begun to fail.

On the day she finally asked me to take her away from my father, I found her in a worse state than I had ever seen her. She could barely stand. She was crawling from room to room while my father ignored her.

Her doctors asked the same question again and again: "What type of head trauma has your mother had?" I always answered the same way: "Over 40 years of severe, ongoing trauma." They focused on treating her physical symptoms. They ignored her history of violent abuse by my father.

My mother never played a violent sport or fought in a war. But the assaults she endured on her head and body were at least as acute as those experienced by athletes and soldiers, and the effects were the same. When all the tests were finished, the neurologist told us my mother was suffering from moderate to severe Alzheimer's disease. The head trauma had been so great and so consistent that there was little they could do.

My mother died in June from the debilitating effects of her abuse. She was receiving hospice care—bedridden, unable to speak or recognize her children.

There are few empirical studies on the prevalence of TBI among women and children affected by domestic violence. But evidence so far strongly indicates a silent epidemic, with major public health ramifications.

A 2001 study found that 67 percent of women seeking emergency medical support for injuries stemming from domestic violence had symptoms related to TBI, and 30 percent reported loss of consciousness.

A 2002 survey of three domestic violence shelters found that 92 percent of the women had been hit on the head by their partners. Applying that figure nationally, the size of the potentially affected population would be astonishingly high: about 20 million women exposed to the risk of TBI each year, and, given the documented association between partner abuse and child abuse,

millions more children.

Domestic violence shelters do not generally screen clients for TBI, and staff members are not trained to address it if encountered. As a result, they can inadvertently make matters worse for those who have sustained TBI by requiring participants to join in physically demanding program activities immediately after they arrive.

There is ample anecdotal evidence of the connection between domestic violence and TBI in stories like my mother's, but we must dig deeper. We must accumulate data, develop screening protocols and appropriate treatment programs, and spread awareness to our nation's shelters and domestic violence facilities. We must treat domestic violence like the emergency that it is, one that impairs the ability of those affected to fully participate in the workforce, in education and in their communities.

Today, I grieve my mother's passing, too soon and far from peaceful. But I am inspired by the thought that with a full reckoning of the relationship between traumatic brain injury and domestic violence, another family may avoid such a fate.

Maria E. Garay-Serratos is chief executive officer of Sojourner Center, a domestic violence shelter in Phoenix. In June, the center launched the BRAIN Program for research and treatment of traumatic brain injury in women and children living with domestic violence. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

Smartphones hurt your relationships and your health

Here's something a little counterintuitive that might get you thinking: Technology, for all its many virtues, may be ruining your life.

And its weapon of choice is that one device you can't live without: your cellphone.

The more obvious dangers of excessive smartphone use, like texting while driving—an activity the Texas Legislature yet again was unable to make a punishable offense during the session that ended in June—are not the only collateral damage caused by our obsession with the tiny glowing screens.

According to a study just released by Baylor University, cellphones are a drain on our relationships. And they are having harmful effects on individual emotional health, too.

Researchers at Baylor's Hankamer School of Business who studied the relational effects of "phubbing"—or "partner phone snubbing"—found that distractions caused by cellphone use while spending time with a partner may lead to "enhanced feelings of depression and lower well-being" by the individual being phubbed.

None of this is surprising.

Think of how often you enter a coffee shop or a restaurant and see two people (sometimes more) at a table, looking not at each another, but at their respective phones.

It's a common occurrence.

So it's not difficult to imagine people developing complexes over feeling they are less interesting to their partners than email, Facebook or Twitter—to all of which we enjoy perpetual, unfettered access thanks to the wonders of technology.

Indeed, results of one survey used in the Baylor study found

that nearly half (46.3 percent) of respondents were phubbed by their partner, and nearly a quarter (22.6 percent) of those who were phubbed said it caused conflict in their relationships.

Apparently that conflict was serious enough in some cases to cause emotional damage; more than a third (36.6 percent) of respondents said they felt depressed at least some of the time.

That depression, researchers assert, is probably an outgrowth of the insecurity caused by the frequency with which one's partner checks his or her phone.

Most people can probably relate to that sentiment.

Emotional distress isn't the only potential consequence of being forced to play second string to a digital device.

A series of studies by two researchers at the University of Essex found the very presence of a phone during an encounter, even if it is not in use, can be detrimental to an individual's attempts at interpersonal connection.

The result is less closeness, empathy and trust between individuals.

The irony, of course, is that our efforts to stay connected at all times, to reach new people in remote places and improve human contact, may be having the opposite effect.

We are becoming less connected, physically and emotionally, to the actual people—not Twitter followers or Facebook "friends"—who occupy important places in our lives.

Even if we were to ignore the emotional harm to relationships that the aforementioned studies correlate with excessive smartphone use, the notion that individuals are increasingly choosing to interact with others in the virtual world instead of the physical one should give us pause.

By CYNTHIA M. ALLEN
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Cynthia M. Allen is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may send her email at cmallen@star-telegram.com.



Robert Putnam warned us about this phenomenon, writing in his 2000 book *Bowling Alone* about how vibrant civic institutions—which help produce better schools, faster economic development, lower crime and more effective government—are on the wane.

One of the culprits (there are several) is the growth of technological forms of entertainment that have come to replace in-person social activities.

More than a decade later, as the Baylor and University of Essex studies show, this cultural epidemic is eroding society at its most fundamental level.

Our personal relationships and our own mental health are at stake.






While many people feel tied to their screens for professional reasons (which is another problem entirely), many others are choosing to spend their leisure time with technology.

But a rousing Twitter debate isn't likely to bring the kind of long-term satisfaction a conversation with a partner or a discussion with a book group can produce.

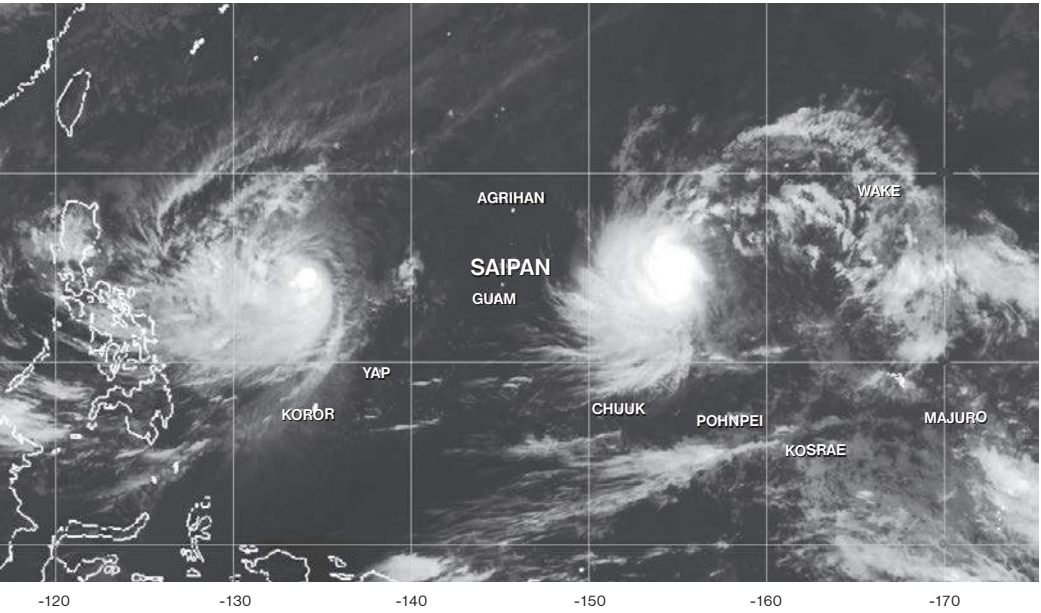
If it does, as a society, we may be beyond saving.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. West winds around 10 mph	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. West winds 15 20 mph.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	 Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Koppu (24W) is centered 460 miles north-northwest of Yap at 16N135E moving west at 18 mph with maximum sustained winds of 50 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are between 10N and 16N west of 136E. Patchy areas of scattered showers are north of 16N to beyond 25N mainly from 130E to 140E. For more information on Tropical Storm Koppu see bulletins issued by Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and by National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. Tropical Depression 25W is centered 815 miles east of Saipan at 14N158E moving west-northwest at 16 mph with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph. Scattered to numerous showers and a few thunderstorms are north of Chuuk and Pohnpei between 9N and 16N mainly from 150E to 158E. For more information on TD 25W, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A monsoon trough curves southeastward from Tropical Depression 25W at 14N158E across the Marshall Islands to beyond 2N180. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northeast of Kwajalein are between 10N and 17N from 167E to 175E. Surging westerly monsoon winds are causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Chuuk and Pohnpei within 75 miles of a line from 4N152E to 6N161E and from southeast of Kosrae and Majuro across Tarawa mainly south of 6N from 163E to the date line.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88	▼ 81
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 76
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 84	▼ 78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 83	▼ 79

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 64	▼ 53
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 80	▼ 50
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲ 83	▼ 75
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 74
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 57	▼ 49
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 68
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 90	▼ 75
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 80	▼ 56
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 87	▼ 74
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 69	▼ 50
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 77	▼ 56
Paris	Cloudy	▲ 46	▼ 44
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75	▼ 55
Rome	Rain	▲ 67	▼ 57
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲ 74	▼ 48
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 76	▼ 59
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 76	▼ 50
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 71	▼ 60
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 69	▼ 48



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:53 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
10:15 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
4:12 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
9:31 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:09 AM	5:57 PM
Friday	6:09 AM	5:57 PM
Saturday	6:09 AM	5:56 PM
Sunday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM
Monday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	7:41 AM	7:34 PM
Friday	8:30 AM	8:18 PM
Saturday	9:21 AM	9:04 PM
Sunday	10:12 AM	9:54 PM
Monday	11:03 AM	10:46 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2015

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5039	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA5039	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5038	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA5038	12:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA5078	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA5077	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA5072	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA5079	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5038	12:15pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5038	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	twice weekly	DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:30am+1	twice weekly
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6
OZ626	3:20am	7:00am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5	OZ625	8:20pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7				
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	DL276/288	9:20am	1:30am+1	twice weekly via NRT
OZ626/701	3:20am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/5079	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	twice weekly via NRT	UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	1:50pm+1	1, via GUM-Rota
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5079	10:25pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/5038	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
				UA184/5079	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	3:20am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:50am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5038	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA5038/179	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM	UA180/5077	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
				UA180/5079	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

AMP, Pacific Historic Parks host inaugural 'Peace Day'

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

In its inaugural "Peace Day" last Sunday, the American Memorial Park and Pacific Historic Parks remembered those who died when a nuclear bomb was detonated in Hiroshima.

The B-29 bomber, Enola Gay, dropped an atomic bomb on the morning of Aug. 6, 1946, killing 80,000 people instantaneously. Years after, thousands of Japanese residents have died due to exposure from the bomb that caused radiation illness, leukemia, and cancer, according to education specialist assistant

Nicole Schafer.

The event on Sunday at the American Memorial Park involved tourists and residents making paper cranes that will be sent to Japan as a sign of peace.

"This is our first time doing it and we're hoping next year to get the schools involved across the island so we can send more cranes," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Although the event was delayed due to the recent typhoon, Schafer hopes that people from all walks of life will never forget the lives lost on that day, including Sadako's, a 7-year-old Japanese student who fell victim to

what was referred to as the "A-bomb" disease then.

In Japan, it is believed that a person who make 1,000 paper cranes will have their wish granted.

"Her wish was to get better," Schafer said.

Sadako only managed to make 644 cranes before succumbing to the disease. In 1958 a children's memorial was unveiled in Japan in her honor, garnering international attention.

Schools and organizations send paper cranes to the monument year-round—a tradition that islanders and tourists alike can now participate in.

Humanities Council offers free film workshop

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is hosting a film workshop this Saturday, Oct. 17.

Aspects of film production from pre-production to post-production will be covered in the workshop, as we all as tips on how to use affordable equipment to achieve a professional look.

The workshop will be facilitated by Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero, who completed a Digital



Guerrero

Filmmaking Intensive course at New York University this past August. The Digital Filmmaking Intensive was composed of award-winning faculty members who provided instructions in the use of digital SLR cameras, lighting, audio recording, and nonlinear editing. Lectures and demonstrations also covered important filmmaking skills, such as script development, cinematography, and directing actors.

Individuals who are interested in learning about film production and taking part in the Humanities Film Festival are invited to attend the film workshop this Saturday, Oct. 17, from 8am to 12pm at Mount Carmel School's Maturana Building in Chalan Kanoa. The workshop is free and open to the public.

To sign up for the workshop, send an email with your name and contact number to northernmarianashumanities@gmail.com or call 235-4787. (*NMI Humanities Council*)

Stellar Marianas moves teen pageant to next year

Interested contestants for the 2016 Miss Marianas Teen Pageant will have more time to prepare for the pageant as Stellar Marianas announces the competition will be moved from this December to March 2016.

Despite official inquiries and applications, the nonprofit group feels the limited time

should be wisely used to support 2015 Miss Marianas Jian Joyner's participation in the 2015 Miss International Pageant in Tokyo, Japan.

Joyner will leave Saturday, thanks to the generous sponsorship of Delta Air Lines, and will be in Tokyo for two weeks before the international pageant

on Nov. 5.

Stellar Marianas is proud to announce it will host fundraisers this holiday season to create awareness for the organization and its mission. All interested volunteers are encouraged to email stellarqueens@gmail.com for more information. (*Stellar Marianas*)

FEMA rebuilding experts to provide advice

Typhoon Soudelor survivors who want to build back better and stronger can learn how from experts for the next two weeks.

Federal Emergency Management Agency mitigation

specialists have been at Ace Hardware in Susupe, talking with customers and handing out free booklets and pamphlets. Their last day there is Sunday, Oct. 18.

The final mitigation outreach

stop will be Oct. 19, through Monday, Nov. 1, at Do-It-Best Hardware in Chalan Kiya. Mitigation hours there will be 10am to 4pm weekdays and Saturdays, and 9am to 4pm Sundays. (*FEMA*)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Survivors, caregivers support meeting today

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting today, Oct. 15, 2015, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. Guest speaker will be Debra Brownlee, who holds a Ph.D. in clinical psychology. The topic of her presentation is: "Compassion Fatigue." Brownlee currently serves at the Community Guidance Center as program manager for the development of a children's mental health system in the CNMI.

To RSVP or for more information, call CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. (*CCA*)

Catch KSPN2 News on radio and Internet

With Docomo cable TV still down due to Typhoon Soudelor, KSPN2 News continues to broadcast on the radio and Internet. Tune in to Magic 100.3 at 6pm Monday to Friday. You can also watch the news broadcast online at www.kspn2.com. For a higher quality, more mobile-friendly option after 8pm, check out www.saipantv.com. (*PR*)

Dandan Middle School calendar

- Oct. 16: Sengebau School Level Competition
- Oct. 17: First NJSDA meet at SAMS
- Oct. 23: October Newsletter will be sent out! & Education Day!
- Oct. 24: Math Court – 1st Meet
- Oct. 26 – 30: Final Exam Week!
- Oct. 27: PTSA Meeting
- Oct. 30: End of First Quarter (*PR*)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy 5th birthday to our baby girl, Micaenna Keriana Borja Nishimura! May the good Lord shower you with all his blessings, not just today but everyday as you grow. With love, from Dad, Mom, Kynalynn, and Aaron.

Ada joins chapter of Phi Theta Kappa

Audrey Ada was inducted into the Beta Sigma Pi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at College of Western Idaho on Sept. 9, 2015.

Ada, majoring in Social Work, is the daughter of Barbara A. Torres and the late Juan W. Torres of Gualo Rai, Saipan.

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi, is the largest honor society in higher education with 1,285 chapters on college campuses in all 50 of the United States, Canada, Germany, the Republic of Palau, Peru, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the British Virgin Islands, the United Arab Emirates, and U.S. territorial possessions. More than 3 million students have been inducted since its founding in 1918, with approximately 134,000 students inducted annually. (*PTK*)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
American Memorial Park and Pacific Historic Parks education specialist assistant Nicole Schafer.



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Rachael Ray 10pc Hard Enamel Cookware Set **\$179⁹⁵**

Alpha Marble 26CM Wok Pan **\$18⁹⁵**



Cookinex Electric Meat Grinder **\$64⁹⁵**



Mr. Coffee 12 Cup Coffeemaker **\$29⁹⁵**

\$14⁹⁵

Kung Fu Master SS 5pc Kitchen Gadget Set



Coleman Table Top Grill **\$69⁹⁵**



Alpha Portable Butane Stove **\$11⁹⁵**



PVC 3 Gallon Water Bottle **\$8⁹⁵**

Kung Fu Master 5pc Kitchen Tools **\$19⁹⁵**



PVC 5 Gallon Water Bottle **\$12⁹⁵**

Essential Home Sydney 5pc Dining Set **\$319⁹⁵**



Essential Home 3pc Swivel Barstool Set **\$109⁹⁵**

Essential Home Morgan Microwave Cart **\$99⁹⁵**



RCA 50" LED LCD TV **\$799⁹⁵**



Proctor Silex Steam Non-Stick Iron **\$14⁹⁵**



Ironing Board 15"X48" w/ Rest **\$39⁹⁵**



Hawaiian Collection Futon Full Size **\$159⁹⁵**

Shaggy Daddy 3pc Bath Set

\$11⁹⁵



Flannel Baby Blanket

\$6⁹⁵



Flannel Blanket Queen Size

\$12⁹⁵



STARTING AT **\$15⁹⁵**



Series 1200 Sheet Set Twin, Full, Queen, & King Size

\$199⁹⁵ SET



Value Twin Mattress and Base Combo

\$49⁹⁵



Emirates 5X8 Carpet

\$49⁹⁵



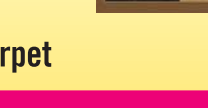
Emirates 2X3 Carpet

\$5⁹⁵



Ramallah 2X3 Carpets

\$5⁹⁵



Vanguard Collection 7pc Comforter Set Twin, Queen, & King Size

\$49⁹⁵



ACME - TV Cabinet BF34

\$330⁹⁵



Essential Home Belmont Black High TV Stand

\$89⁹⁵



Bamboo Patio Chair

\$69⁹⁵



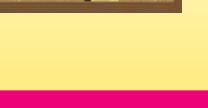
Lowell Espresso Recliner

\$369⁹⁵



YZ Furniture Real Leather Recliner

\$289⁹⁵



Hong Ma 5 Feet Table

\$44⁹⁵



Hong Ma 4 Feet Round Centerfold Table

\$43⁹⁵



Child's Play 15oz Candy

\$8⁹⁵



Tootsie Roll Pop 10.125oz

\$3⁹⁵



HDX 50gal XL Clear Trash Bags 50ct

\$19⁹⁵



WZ Mini Umbrella

\$4⁹⁵



3pc Dart Pin

79¢



Everest Large Cargo Duffels

\$21⁹⁵



Everest Signature Fanny Pack

\$6⁹⁵



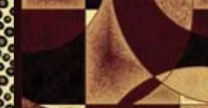
Everest Camo Deluxe Wheeled Duffel

\$39⁹⁵



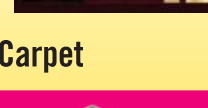
Everest Digital Camo Wheeled Duffel

\$39⁹⁵



WZ Mini Umbrella

\$4⁹⁵



3pc Dart Pin

79¢



Everest Large Cargo Duffels

\$21⁹⁵



Everest Signature Fanny Pack

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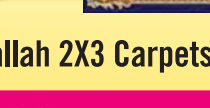
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WZ Mini Umbrella

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79¢



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Everest Camo Deluxe Wheeled Duffel

\$39⁹⁵



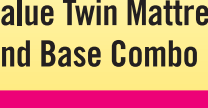
Everest Digital Camo Wheeled Duffel

\$39⁹⁵



WZ Mini Umbrella

\$4⁹⁵



3pc Dart Pin

79¢



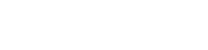
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\$21⁹⁵



Everest Signature Fanny Pack

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Everest Camo Deluxe Wheeled Duffel

\$39⁹⁵



Everest Digital Camo Wheeled Duffel

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WZ Mini Umbrella

\$4⁹⁵



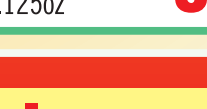
3pc Dart Pin

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\$39⁹⁵



WZ Mini Umbrella

\$4⁹⁵



3pc Dart Pin

Business

Top beer makers to join forces to face industry challenges

BRUSSELS (AP)—The world’s biggest beer maker clinched a deal Tuesday to take over its nearest rival in a bid to stave off the megabrewers’ most serious problems: the surge in popularity of craft brews and weakening sales in the rich markets of the U.S. and Europe.

SABMiller accepted in principle a takeover bid worth 69 billion pounds (\$106 billion) from Anheuser Busch InBev in a deal that seeks strength in size. The combined company would control nearly a third of the global market.

Belgium-based AB InBev, already the world’s largest brewer, makes Budweiser, Corona, Stella Artois and Beck’s. SABMiller, based in London, has Miller Genuine Draft, Peroni and Milwaukee’s Best among its 200 or so brands.

AB InBev’s determination to close the deal after five attempts shows how established beer brands know they have to act to adapt to shifting global tastes.

In wealthy countries, people are turning to locally brewed beers or other drinks such as wine. In the U.S., craft beer sales account for 10 percent of beer volumes, compared with virtually nothing a few years ago. The same could soon apply in Europe, said Giulio Lombardi, senior director at Fitch Ratings.

“The global beer market overall is largely flat and in some regions is declining as other beverages such as wine continue to penetrate,” said John Colley, professor at Warwick Business School in England. “Micro-brewers and their highly differentiated cask ales also continue to make progress.”

In coming years, beer sales are expected to grow most in emerging economies in regions

Bottles of Budweiser beer in a shop window in London, Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2015. The world’s top two beer makers agreed Tuesday to join forces to create a company that would control nearly a third of the global market.

such as Africa, where SABMiller has a strong presence.

The sheer size of the deal, however, is likely to invite resistance from regulators, notably in the U.S. and China, amid concerns that the merger could stifle competition and reduce consumer choice. In the U.S., any deal is widely expected to require the sale of Miller’s stable of beers.

How the companies’ dominance might ultimately affect prices for consumers is unclear, but experts say the merger would give the brewers more power to negotiate deals with suppliers, distributors and retailers.

The deal’s success would also depend on the combined companies’ ability to make savings through job cuts.

“AB InBev has both a reputation and demonstrable track record for being able to effectively extract these savings,” Colley said.

He said to “expect substantial redundancies” over the coming year, potentially in head offices and country management teams.

SABMiller employs 69,000 people in 83 countries. AB InBev has 155,000 workers in 25 countries.

Having dismissed previous proposals as undervaluing the company, the directors of SABMiller unanimously agreed to an offer that values each SABMiller share at 44 pounds. SABMiller’s two biggest shareholders, Marlboro owner Altria and



Takeover brewing

The world's biggest beer maker Anheuser-Busch InBev sealed a deal to take over rival SABMiller for \$106 billion.

	Anheuser-Busch InBev	SABMiller
Revenue (2014)	\$47 billion	\$22.3 billion
Profits (2014)*	\$15 billion	\$6.5 billion
Brands and flavors	90	210
Employees	155,000	69,000
Lager volumes (2014 - Hectolitres)	458 million	245 million
Popular brands	• Budweiser • Bud Light • Coors • Fosters • Goose Island • Rolling Rock • Miller Genuine Draft • Michelob • Becks • Busch • Hamm's • Icehouse • Shock Top • Stella Artois • Leinenkugel • Peroni	

*Earning before interest and taxes

Source: ABInBev annual report, SAB Miller annual report, AP
Graphic: Tribune News Service

Colombia’s BevCo, would get both cash and shares for their combined 41 percent stake.

AB InBev has until Oct. 28 to come up with a formal offer. In that time, the two sides will work on the terms and conditions of the takeover as well as the financing of the deal.

The markets think the deal is now likely, and SABMiller’s shares rose to near the bid price.

They closed up 8.4 percent at 39.26 pounds in London. AB InBev’s share price rose 1.7 percent to 100 euros in Brussels.

In statements, the two companies said the all-cash offer represents a premium of around 50 percent to SABMiller’s share price on Sept. 14, the last trading day before renewed speculation of an approach from AB InBev emerged.

Twitter purging up to 336 workers as new CEO slashes costs

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Twitter is laying off up to 336 employees, signaling CEO Jack Dorsey’s resolve to slash costs while the company struggles to make money.

The cutbacks announced Tuesday could equate to about 8 percent of Twitter’s workforce of 4,100 people.

The purge comes two weeks after Twitter brought back one of its co-founders as permanent CEO in hopes that Dorsey would be able to resolve problems that have slowed user growth at the messaging service and compounded an uninterrupted cycle of financial losses.

Cutting costs can boost profits but at Twitter, it has also raised uncertainty about the future, the company’s pursuit of faster growth and its ability to attract a bigger audience.

The layoffs may be a sign of desperation at a sinking compa-

ny, said Edison Investment Research analyst Richard Windsor.

“It is important to run a tight ship, but simply cutting jobs is often the action of a company that does not know what else to do,” Windsor said.

Dorsey told Twitter employees in a Tuesday letter that a more streamlined company will result in more products rolling out more quickly. “We feel strongly that engineering will move much faster with a smaller and nimbler team,” Dorsey wrote.

Twitter’s workforce has nearly doubled over the past two years, hindering efforts to turn a profit for the first time in its nine-year history. Since Dorsey and his partners started the service, Twitter has lost nearly \$2 billion.

When reports of the anticipated layoffs surfaced late last week, investors initially fretted

that Dorsey might be reacting to disappointing performance in the quarter that just ended in September. Twitter eased those worries Tuesday by disclosing that its revenue for the period will hit or slightly exceed its previously target of \$545 million to \$560 million. The official results are due out Oct. 27.

Twitter’s stock gained 99 cents, or 3.5 percent, to \$29.74 in midday trading Tuesday.

Dorsey has acknowledged that Twitter is too confusing for many people to use, turning off new users at a time when other social services such as Snapchat and Facebook’s WhatsApp have grown in popularity.

As part of its revival plan, Twitter last week unveiled a new feature called “Moments” that packages commentary, video and photos about major events that have captured people’s attention. The work on

Moments began while Dorsey’s predecessor, Dick Costolo, was still Twitter’s CEO.

After returning as CEO, Dorsey promised to make Twitter even more accessible to the masses by next year. Jettisoning jobs will give Twitter more financial leeway while it designs new tools.

Twitter’s expenses through the first half of the year climbed 44 percent to \$1.2 billion. The company’s revenue totaled \$938 million during the same period.

Retrenching will cost Twitter \$10 million to \$20 million, mostly to pay for employee severance packages. The accounting charge for the reorganization is expected to be lower, ranging from \$5 million to \$15 million, because Twitter some of the departing employees will be losing stock options that didn’t vest.

SIDEBAR

Who makes this beer? Brands owned by big brewers

The King of Beers is expanding its kingdom: Anheuser Busch InBev, the company behind Budweiser, said Tuesday that it plans to buy rival SABMiller for \$106 billion, bringing together the world’s two largest beer makers. Combining the two will shake up the global beer market, giving the company control of a third of the market.

The move comes as drinkers increasingly prefer to guzzle beer from small craft brewers instead of giant companies. Sales of craft beer made up 11 percent of the U.S. beer market last year, up from 7.8 percent in 2013, according to the Brewers Association.

Here’s a look at the world’s biggest brewers and what beers they make:

Anheuser-Busch InBev NV

Brands: Budweiser, Bud Light, Corona, Beck’s.

Latest annual revenue: \$47.06 billion.

Size: World’s largest brewer. According to Euromonitor, AB InBev has a 21 percent share of the global beer market. The company makes almost half the beer sold in the U.S.

History: The company traces its lineage to a brewery in Belgium in 1366. In 2004, Belgian Interbrew combined with Brazilian Ambev to make InBev, and in 2008 InBev bought U.S.-based Anheuser Busch. The company later acquired Mexico’s Grupo Modelo, but sold Modelo’s U.S. business.

SABMiller PLC

Brands: Miller, Peroni, Milwaukee’s Best, Grolsch.

Annual revenue: \$26.29 billion.

Size: World’s second-largest brewer, with a market share of almost 10 percent.

History: South African Breweries bought Miller Brew-

Heineken NV

Brands: Heineken, Dos Equis, Tecate, Amstel.

Annual revenue: \$21.76 billion.

Size: About 9 percent share of the global beer market.

History: Founded in 1864 in the Netherlands. Teamed with Carlsberg to buy UK-based Scottish & Newcastle in 2008, keeping the company’s cider and beer business.

Carlsberg AS

Brands: Carlsberg, Tuborg, Somersby, Kronenbourg.

Annual revenue: \$9.77 billion.

Size: A 6 percent global market share.

History: The Danish company was founded in 1826 and combined with competitor Tuborg in 1970. Carlsberg acquired Orkla of Norway in 2004, expanding its business in Russia, Scandinavia and the Baltic countries, and built on those moves with its part of the Scottish & Newcastle deal.

Tsingtao Brewery Co.

Brands: Tsingtao.

Annual revenue: \$4.55 billion.

Size: A global market share of 4.7 percent.

History: Founded in 1903 and started exporting beer in 1954. The Chinese state-owned company says its beer is the number one consumer product exported from China. Top beer makers to join forces to face industry challenges. (AP)

Nation

Clinton, Sanders clash on guns, economy, foreign policy

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Hillary Rodham Clinton and Sen. Bernie Sanders clashed over U.S. involvement in the Middle East, gun control and economic policy in the first Democratic presidential debate Tuesday night, vigorously outlining competing visions for a party seeking to keep the White House for a third straight term.

Yet in a moment of political unity—and levity—Sanders leapt to Clinton's defense on the issue of her controversial email practices as secretary of state.

"The American people are sick and tired are hearing about your damn emails," Sanders exclaimed as the crowd in Las Vegas roared with applause. A smiling Clinton reached over to shake his hand and said, "Thank you, Bernie."

While the five candidates onstage took issue with each other, they also repeatedly sounded traditional Democratic themes—such as fighting income inequality—that are sure to carry over to the general election campaign against the Republicans.

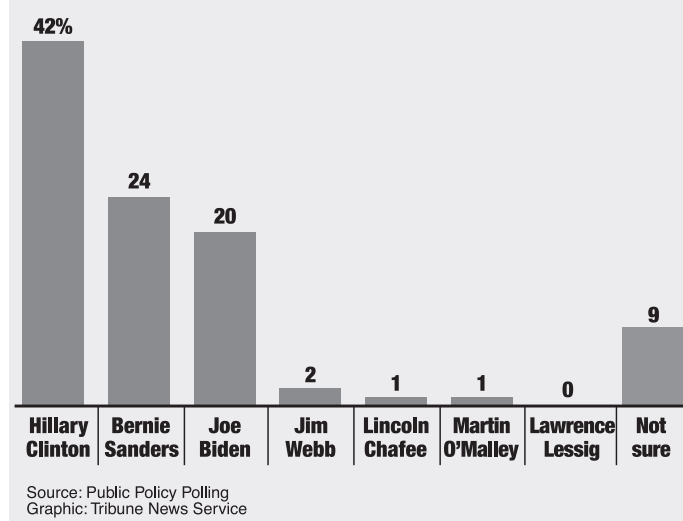
First, the Democrats must choose their own candidate. And throughout most of the two-hour debate Clinton played the role of aggressor, an unexpected shift for a candidate who had barely mentioned her Democratic rivals since launching her campaign six months ago. Until now, Clinton and Sanders—who has surprisingly emerged as her toughest competition—have circled each other cautiously and avoided direct attacks.



Sen. Bernie Sanders, of Vermont, left, and Hillary Rodham Clinton laugh during the CNN Democratic presidential debate, Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2015, in Las Vegas. AP

Democratic candidates

National poll of Democratic voters, Oct. 1-4



After Sanders, a self-described democratic socialist, derided "a casino capitalist process by which so few have so much," Clinton said it would be a "big mistake" for the U.S. to turn its back on the system that built the American middle class. Asked whether she thought Sanders, who has a mixed record on gun control legislation, had been tough enough on the issue, she said simply, "No, I do not."

While Sanders is drawing big crowds on the campaign trail and challenging Clinton's fundraising prowess, he's largely unknown to many Americans. Tuesday's debate offered him a high-profile opportunity to cast himself as an electable alterna-

tive to Clinton and appeal for support beyond his liberal base.

Sanders has sought in particular to distinguish himself from Clinton over foreign policy, an issue where she is often more hawkish than others in the Democratic Party. The former secretary of state reiterated her call for more robust U.S. action to stop the Syrian civil war and defended her judgment on international issues, despite having voted for the 2002 invasion of Iraq.

Sanders called the Iraq war "the worst foreign policy blunder in the history of our country" and said he would not support sending American combat troops back to the Middle East to fight terrorism.

"Nobody does, Senator Sanders," Clinton interjected.

Clinton's confident performance was likely to ease anxiety among supporters who have questioned her campaign's handling of the email controversy. One question still to be answered: how her showing will affect Vice President Joe Biden's decision about making a late entry into the Democratic race.

Biden has been deliberating about his political future for months and is expected to announce a decision within days. Debate host CNN kept an extra podium on standby in case he decided to show up, but the vice president instead stayed in Washington, where he was watching the debate at his residence.

Even with the swirling Biden speculation and Clinton's email

controversy, the Democratic contest has largely been overshadowed by the Republican primary, where more than a dozen candidates are fighting to overtake billionaire Donald Trump. The real estate mogul still made his presence known Tuesday night, sending a torrent of Twitter commentary on the Democrats' performances.

"Sorry, there is no STAR on the stage tonight!" he wrote.

While the Republican primary has been roiled by the emotional debate over immigration, the Democratic candidates were largely united in their call for providing a path to legal status for the millions of people currently in the U.S. illegally. The party is counting on general election support from Hispanics, a group that overwhelmingly voted for President Barack Obama in 2012.

Joining Clinton and Sanders on stage in Las Vegas was a trio of low-polling candidates looking for a breakthrough moment: former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley; Jim Webb, a former Navy secretary and U.S. senator from Virginia, and Lincoln Chafee, the Republican-turned independent-turned Democrat from Rhode Island.

For Clinton, the debate was a much-needed opportunity to focus on policy in addition to the controversy over her exclusive use of personal email and a private Internet server during her tenure in the Obama administration. The email issue has shadowed her rollout of numerous policy positions and has hurt her standing with voters.

Gun shop ordered to pay millions to injured police officers

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Jurors ordered a Wisconsin gun store to pay nearly \$6 million on Tuesday in a lawsuit filed by two Milwaukee police officers who were shot and seriously wounded by a gun purchased at the store.

The ruling came in a negligence lawsuit filed by the officers against Badger Guns, a shop in suburban Milwaukee that authorities have linked to hundreds of firearms found at crime scenes. The lawsuit said the shop ignored several warn-

ing signs that the gun used to shoot the officers was being sold to a so-called straw buyer who was illegally purchasing the weapon for someone else.

Officer Bryan Norberg and former Officer Graham Kunisch were both shot in the face after they stopped Julius Burton for riding his bike on the sidewalk in the summer of 2009. Investigators said Burton got the weapon, a Taurus .40-caliber handgun, a month before the confrontation, after giving \$40

to another man, Jacob Collins, to make the purchase at the store in West Milwaukee.

One bullet shattered eight of Norberg's teeth, blew through his cheek and lodged into his shoulder. He remains on the force but said his wounds have made his work difficult. Kunisch was shot several times, resulting in him losing an eye and part of the frontal lobe of his brain. He said the wounds forced him to retire.

Jurors sided with the officers,

ruling that the store was negligent. Jurors ordered the store to pay Norberg \$1.5 million, Kunisch \$3.6 million and punitive damages of \$730,000.

The officers' lawyer, Patrick Dunphy, said Tuesday that he said his clients "feel very relieved," though he anticipates years of appeals.

Defense attorneys declined to comment after the verdict was read. The owners and operators of the gun shop weren't in court to hear the verdict.

Parents charged with fatally beating son in New York church

NEW HARTFORD, N.Y. (AP)—A central New York couple has been charged with fatally beating their 19-year-old son inside a church and four fellow church members have been charged with assault in an attack that also left the young man's brother severely injured, police said Tuesday.

Bruce Leonard, 65, and Deborah Leonard, 59, of Clayville, were charged with first-degree manslaughter in the death of their son Lucas, said Lt. Timothy O'Neill of the New Hartford Police Department. O'Neill said

Lucas Leonard died Monday after he was beaten at Word of Life Church in New Hartford, which is 80 miles northwest of Albany.

His 17-year-old brother is hospitalized in serious condition with injuries from an assault.

The six church members were arraigned Tuesday and sent to Oneida County Jail. At the arraignment, it was revealed that both teens suffered injuries to their abdomens, genitals, backs and thighs. Bail for the Leonards was set at \$100,000 each and for the four other defendants at \$50,000

each. All pleaded not guilty.

Police said more arrests are expected as the investigation continues. Details about the attack or what may have led up to it have not been disclosed.

The investigation began at about 12:30 p.m. Monday when family members brought Lucas Leonard to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Investigators determined that the Word of Life Church was the scene of the crime, and the building was surrounded by special operations teams from state and local

police agencies.

Police eventually entered the church, a three-story brick building on a residential street that originally housed a school. Several church members were interviewed, and several children were turned over to child welfare officials.

In addition to the Leonards, police arrested David Morey, 26, of Utica; Linda Morey, 54, of Utica; Sarah Ferguson, 33, who lives at the same address as the Leonards; and Joseph Irwin, 26, who lives in the church building.

California's sweeping new social policies could set trend

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—California ends its legislative season having enacted some of the country's most aggressive social policies: Laws requiring student vaccinations, granting terminally ill people the right to take life-ending medications, and mandating equal pay for women were among dozens approved.

The range of sweeping new laws in the most populous state reflects legislators' desire to set a national trend on progressive social and environmental issues while sidestepping more thorny economic matters.

Many interest groups and politicians see California as the brass ring for setting policies—and then testing whether those policies can withstand rigorous challenges.

"Both the vaccine bill and the right-to-die legislation will be seriously looked at by other states," said Sherry Bebitch-Jeffe, senior political science fellow at the University of Southern California. "If it can

pass here and it is perceived to work here, I think the proponents have a big positive jolt out of the victory in California."

She believes over the next five to 10 years, the nation will look more like California both demographically and politically.

Gov. Jerry Brown, a lifelong Catholic and former Jesuit seminarian, ended months of speculation when he signed the hotly debated right-to-die law, saying he doesn't want to deprive the terminally ill of that option.

Advocates pushed for such laws in at least two dozen states this year following the highly publicized death of activist Brittany Maynard, a California woman with terminal brain cancer who moved to Oregon to legally end her life.

The legislation faltered elsewhere, but advocates hailed the California win as their most significant. They called it the "biggest victory for the death-with-dignity movement since Oregon passed the nation's first law two decades ago."

Asia

Nepal fuel crisis eases as govt allows some gas sales

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP)—Nepal's fuel crisis eased slightly as the Himalayan nation began issuing gasoline for private vehicles while also reopening a northern border crossing with China that had been damaged by April's devastating earthquake.

Lines of cars and motorcycles stretched for kilometers (miles) from gasoline pumps in Kathmandu on Tuesday, as people rushed to fill up before the Hindu festival of Dasain, the country's biggest holiday. The government said it was allowing only a one-time sale of 15 liters (4 gallons) per vehicle until the fuel shortage is over.

Meanwhile on the southern border, where supplies have been blocked for weeks by protests, 101 trucks including 63 carrying some type of fuel crossed Tuesday at the Joghani border crossing, according to police official Pramod Kharel.

It was the biggest shipment of fuel into Nepal in more than two weeks.

Nepal has been hobbled by the fuel crisis, which started when Indian trucks began halting at the border after Nepal adopted a new constitution. The constitution angered ethnic Madhesi groups, who are now demanding it be amended.



A Nepalese schoolboy rides his bicycle past vehicles lined up to fill fuel in Kathmandu, Nepal, Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015.

AP

Nepal accused India of imposing a blockade to force the government to meet the demands of Madhesi, who have close ties in India.

India denies there is any official blockade, saying truckers are simply afraid to cross into areas of protest. It has not explained why truckers were not

afraid when the groups were protesting for weeks before the constitution was adopted.

Indian Oil Corp.—which supplies all of Nepal's fuel—

said only 6,000 tons of gasoline and diesel had been delivered in the first half of October—not even a quarter of the usual two-week supply of about 30,000 tons. The company has yet to assess its losses.

“There are security concerns,” said Indrajit Bose, a senior company official, explaining why the trucks haven't crossed the border. “Even though the tankers have been loaded, the drivers are unwilling to go in.”

The main border point at Birgunj, which handles 60-70 percent of India-Nepal trade, remained closed Tuesday while

protesters continued to rally on the Nepalese side. About 100 kilometers (62 miles) away at the crossing in Lahan, Madhesi villagers said they were also hard hit because of the fuel shortage, but would continue their protests.

“In the past, we have protested and we have been promised many things. But those promises were never kept. Now we will continue until our demands are met,” said 48-year-old Ashok Swanaar, accusing the government of dismissing Madhesi as “outsiders” despite their having lived in Nepal for generations.

The Madhesi oppose the new constitution because it divides Nepal into seven states, with some borders slicing through the Madhesi's ancestral homeland in the southern plains. The Madhesi, along with several other small ethnic groups, want the states to be larger and to be given more autonomy over local matters.

Talks last week made little progress, though the country's new prime minister appointed the leader of a smaller Madhesi group to be one of his deputy premiers. The larger group was unimpressed, and vowed to continue agitating until its demands were fully met.

“We will stop only after constitutional amendments have been made to address our demands,” said Upendra Yadav, one of the leaders of the United Democratic Madhesi Front.

Yadav said the group was asking for the state border to be adjusted, electoral constituencies redrawn, more parliamentary representation for ethnic minorities, and the guarantee of more government jobs.

Myanmar says election to be held as planned despite flooding

NAYPYITAW, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar's general election will go ahead as planned on Nov. 8 despite a proposed delay because of recent landslides and flooding, the election commission said Tuesday.

Union Election Commission Chairman Tin Aye had signaled in a meeting with political parties earlier Tuesday that the parliamentary election could be postponed either nationwide or in areas hit by heavy monsoon rains.

The opposition National League for Democracy party led by Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, which is expected to do well in the polls, said it was

against a delay.

Government officials met later with the election commission and decided that a delay would cause a variety of problems, officials said.

“For the ease of election campaigning and for voters to be able to vote conveniently, we have discussed with committee members whether to delay the election date or not,” the election commission said in a statement.

“If the election date is delayed, there could be some consequences. For that reason the election commission has decided the election date will be on Nov. 8, 2015, as scheduled.”

The general election is to be

followed by a presidential election early next year when the army and the elected members of parliament will nominate a total of three candidates, and then all lawmakers will vote for the president.

Myanmar, a predominantly Buddhist nation, began moving from a half-century of military rule toward democracy in 2011 when a nominally civilian government, led by a pro-military party, took office. Though there are many concerns—including the exclusion of ethnic Rohingya Muslims from the process and irregularities in voting lists—most observers believe the upcoming elections

are the country's best chance in decades for relatively free and credible polls.

If the elections are credible, most observers believe Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy will win the most seats in parliament, and could even control a majority by forming a coalition with smaller parties.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Vietnam slams China over construction of lighthouses

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Vietnam on Wednesday slammed China over its construction of two lighthouses in the disputed South China Sea, saying the move violates Vietnam's sovereignty and escalates tensions. Chinese state media reported last week that a completion ceremony was held for the lighthouses on Cuateron Reef and Johnson South Reef in the Spratly islands. The state-run Vietnam News Agency quoted Foreign Ministry spokesman Le Hai Binh as saying the construction “seriously violates Vietnam's sovereignty ... complicates the situation and escalates tensions.” He said Vietnam will protest China's actions. Xinhua says the lighthouses will help improve navigation in the area. China has launched a massive land reclamation project on reefs in the South China Sea over the last 18 months, raising concerns in the region and in the United States.

Video shows foreigners, Filipino kidnapped in PH

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Suspected Muslim militants have posted a video purportedly showing for the first time two Canadians, a Norwegian and a Filipino woman who were abducted last month from a southern Philippine resort,

demanding that government forces stop artillery fire and assaults. Army Brig. Gen. Alan Arrojado said Wednesday the military was trying to verify the authenticity of the video, adding the military had rejected the demands. The video was circulated online and by the U.S.-based SITE Intelligence Group, which monitors jihadi websites. It shows the glum-looking hostages sitting in a grassy clearing, with a dozen mostly masked gunmen standing behind them. Two black flags associated with the Islamic State group hang in the backdrop of lush foliage.

China jails former oil executive for 20 years for corruption

BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese court sentenced a former senior executive of a state oil company on Tuesday to 20 years in prison after finding him guilty of corruption. The sentencing of Wang Yongchun, former deputy general manager of China National Petroleum Corp., came a day after the company's former chairman, Jiang Jiemin, was given 16 years' imprisonment for corruption. The Xiangyang Intermediate People's Court in central China said Wang received 49 million yuan (\$7.9 million) in bribes between 2000 and 2013 and failed to explain the source of another 42 million yuan. It said Wang—at Jiang's direction—provided assistance to others, causing huge losses to the state.

Singapore economy expands slightly in third quarter

SINGAPORE (AP)—Singapore's economy expanded slightly in the third quarter, narrowly avoiding recession after shrinking in the previous three months, preliminary figures showed Wednesday.

Separately, the Monetary Authority of Singapore said the pace of appreciation of the Singapore dollar will be “reduced slightly” for the second time this year, in a bid to revive exports and economic growth. Singapore uses its currency rather than interest rates to influence monetary conditions that can affect overall growth rates.

The Ministry of Trade and In-

dustry said gross domestic product expanded 0.1 percent in the July-September quarter from the previous quarter. The economy of the trade-reliant city-state at the tip of peninsula Malaysia contracted 2.5 percent in the April-June quarter. Construction and manufacturing contracted in the third quarter, partly reflecting the slowdown in China's economy, while services grew.

“Singapore is not yet out of the woods, as this is still just an advance estimate,” said Rajiv Biswas, Asia-Pacific chief economist at IHS Global Insight. “Growth was positive by a wafer-thin margin,” he said.

A recession is defined as two or more consecutive quarters of decline in GDP on a quarter to quarter basis.

Final GDP data for the third quarter will be released in November.

The Singapore government forecasts full year economic growth of between 2 and 2.5 percent, low compared with average growth rates for the past decade.

“The sense is that this sub-par state of affairs could last till mid-2016 before nascent China traction and broader global recovery helps provide a gentle lift,” said Vishnu Varathan, senior economist at Mizuho Bank.

World

Dutch probe: Buk missile downed Malaysian jet in Ukraine

GILZE-RIJEN AIR BASE, Netherlands (AP)—The missile shot skyward from war-ravaged eastern Ukraine. With deadly accuracy more than six miles up, it detonated just in front of the Malaysia Airlines jetliner, sending hundreds of jagged steel shards ripping through its aluminum skin at up to 5,600 mph and shearing the cockpit from the rest of the plane.

The two pilots and purser in the cockpit died instantly, and the Boeing 777 disintegrated and fell to earth, killing the rest of the 298 men, women and children aboard Flight 17 on July 17, 2014, Dutch investigators said Tuesday in a long-awaited report.

Some of the victims may have been conscious for 60 to 90 seconds, the Dutch Safety Board said, but they probably were not fully aware of what was happening in the oxygen-starved, freezing chaos. The tornado-like airflow surging through the doomed jet as it came apart was powerful enough to tear off people's clothes and leave naked corpses amid the fields of sunflowers.

The 15-month Dutch investigation blamed a Soviet-made surface-to-air Buk missile for downing the Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur flight, but it did not explicitly say who had fired it. It identified an area of 320 square kilometers (120 square miles)

where it said the launch must have taken place, and all of the land was in the hands of pro-Russian separatists fighting Ukrainian forces at the time of the disaster, according to daily maps of fighting released by the Ukrainian National Security Council.

The Dutch Safety Board also found that the tragedy wouldn't have happened if the airspace of eastern Ukraine had been totally closed to passenger planes as fighting raged below.

"Our investigation showed that all parties regarded the conflict in eastern part of Ukraine from a military perspective. Nobody gave any thought of a possible threat to civil aviation," Safety Board chairman Tjibbe Joutstra said in releasing the report at a military base in the southern Netherlands.

He spoke in front of the partially reassembled red, white and blue Malaysian jetliner, much of the left side of its mangled fuselage front riddled with shrapnel holes.

Russian officials were prompt to dismiss the Dutch report, with Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov calling it an obvious "attempt to make a biased conclusion, in essence to carry out a political order."

Earlier Tuesday, the Buk's manufacturer presented its own report trying to clear the separatists, and Russia itself, of any



involvement.

The Russian state-controlled consortium Almaz-Antey said it conducted experiments, including one in which a Buk missile was detonated near the nose of an airplane similar to a 777, and it contended they contradicted the conclusion that a Buk missile of the kind used by the Russians destroyed Flight 17. Almaz-Antey had earlier suggested that it

could have been a model of Buk that is no longer in service with the Russian military but is part of Ukraine's arsenal.

It said the experiments also rebutted claims the missile was fired from Snizhne, a village that was under rebel control. An Associated Press reporter saw a Buk missile system in that vicinity on the same day.

Despite the moves by Mos-

cow, Prime Minister Mark Rutte of the Netherlands called on Russia to fully cooperate with a separate criminal investigation that Dutch prosecutors are conducting into the downing of the plane, in which 196 Dutch nationals died.

Rutte said a key priority "is now tracking down and prosecuting the perpetrators."

"On July 17, 2014, in eastern

Ukraine, in broad daylight, a passenger airplane was shot out of the sky with a Buk missile," he said. The safety board's conclusions confirmed "some of our most shocking suspicions," he added.

In a statement, the Dutch-led Joint Investigation Team said it has already identified "persons of interest" in the probe, but said it is "not easy" to find witnesses, especially ones willing to make a statement. They said their probe will stretch into 2016.

The Netherlands has headed the international investigation into the disaster because most victims were Dutch. Ukraine, in whose airspace the incident occurred, agreed to let the Netherlands take the lead.

At U.N. headquarters, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin defended his country's decision not to close its airspace, saying no one at the time was aware of the possibility that Russia had brought highly sophisticated anti-aircraft missiles into Ukraine.

Jerusalem hospital copes with treating victims and attackers

JERUSALEM (AP)—As a wave of violence sweeps across Jerusalem, victims and perpetrators are often surprised to be reunited—at each other's bedside in the city's largest emergency ward.

The Hadassah Medical Center prides itself on checking politics at the door and treating Palestinian attackers and Jewish victims alike. But the tensions on the street are increasingly seeping through the hospital's sterile walls, with family members clashing in the hallways and causing the wounded even more trauma.

Hadassah's Ein Kerem campus is considered a rare model of co-existence in deeply divided Jerusalem, with a mixed Jewish-Arab medical team working together to treat the city's wounded and infirm.

Coping with conflict is nothing new. More than 20 members of the hospital staff were either killed or lost close relatives during the last decade's Palestinian uprising. They are accustomed to separating their own feelings from the task at hand and treating those on the other side of the region's decades-old conflict.

Daniel Weiss, the chief resident of Surgery Ward A, said it was "irrelevant" whether he was operating on a victim or a wounded attacker.

"We have patients of all kinds coming in. It doesn't matter who they are. We treat them all," he said. "It's surreal, but that is the way we are. Jews and Arabs mingle and shop at each other's stores and work at each other's businesses and they lie at the hos-



pital together

It's a sentiment echoed by Ahmed Eid, head of surgery at Hadassah's Mount Scopus campus. On Monday, Eid, an Israeli

Arab, operated on and saved the life of a 13-year-old Jewish boy who was stabbed in the east Jerusalem area of Pisgat Zeev and arrived at the hospital with barely a pulse after losing large quantities of blood.

"This is the situation and it has become very routine for us," he said. "What happens in the country also affects us but it doesn't influence our medicine. Hadassah is a very special place."

The hospital corridors are filled with women wearing traditional Muslim dresses and headscarves walking alongside ultra-Orthodox Jews and patients with Jewish skullcaps. But the notion of Arabs and Jews being as inseparable in the hospital as they are outside doesn't sit well with everyone.

Russian Embassy shelled in Syria as insurgents hit back

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—The Russian Embassy in Damascus was shelled Tuesday as pro-government demonstrators gathered outside, and Syria's largest insurgent coalition announced an offensive to counter Moscow's airstrikes that have injected new fury in the conflict.

Al-Qaida's branch in Syria, meanwhile, released an audio message purportedly from its leader urging Muslims in the former Soviet Union to attack Russian civilians if Russia targets civilians in Syria.

The developments underscored the complications brought about by Russia's military intervention in Syria, which is fueling an already brutal conflict with a multitude of radical groups.

No one was hurt in the embassy shelling, officials said, and it was not the first time the compound has been hit during the civil war. The attack came as hundreds of people were gathered outside to thank Moscow for its military intervention.

An Associated Press reporter who was outside the embassy when the first shell slammed into the compound in central Damascus saw smoke billowing from inside. As people ran away, another shell hit the area, landing about 200 meters (yards) from the compound.

It was not clear if the attack had targeted the rally.

"This is obviously a terrorist act intended to probably frighten supporters of the war against

terror," said Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

Insurgents have vowed to fight back after Moscow began its airstrikes in Syria on Sept. 30. Russia has been one of the strongest supporters of Syrian President Bashar Assad since the start of the uprising in 2011.

The civil war has killed more than 250,000 people and displaced half of Syria's prewar population of 23 million.

On Tuesday, the Army of Conquest, a coalition that includes several powerful rebel factions as well as the al-Qaida-affiliated Nusra Front, announced its counteroffensive against government forces.

"We call upon all holy warriors who are besieged in Hama

to ignite all the fronts and then merge with Muslims who are approaching," a statement said.

Before the shelling, the demonstrators had gathered outside the embassy carrying posters showing Assad and Russian President Vladimir Putin, and waving the flags of both countries.

Some held placards that read: "Thanks Russia" and "Syria and Russia are together to fight terrorism."

"President Putin's stances were absolutely positive for Syria," said 39-year-old civil servant Nizar Maqsood.

"All the West stood against us. Only Russia backed us. ... We are all here to thank Russia and President Putin," said Osama Salal, an 18-year-old student.

WORLD BRIEFS

France, Saudi Arabia deepen alliance with 10B euros in deals

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—France has signed deals worth 10 billion euros (\$11.4 billion) with Saudi Arabia, said French Prime Minister Manuel Valls on Tuesday, underscoring the shared foreign policy stances that have helped deepen the two countries' military and economic ties. Valls, who announced the deals on his official Twitter account, is in Saudi Arabia with a large delegation of French business representatives and top officials, including Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius and Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian. France's Foreign Ministry said in a statement that the deal includes the start of negotiations to provide Saudi Arabia with its own communication and observation satellites—something the kingdom has been coveting as it expands its regional military reach and fights a war against Shiite rebels in Yemen. The two sides also signed deals in Riyadh for \$2 billion worth of Saudi public investment in French private funds with a focus on renewable energy and signed a letter of intent for cooperation in that sector.

They also signed a cooperation agreement to establish a naval research center and to increase joint military training exercises.

Wild aurochs-like cattle reintroduced in Czech Republic

MILOVICE, Czech Republic (AP)—Such an animal has not been seen on Czech territory for hundreds of years. A Dutch breeding program has recreated massive bovines closely related to aurochs, once the heaviest European land mammal and the wild ancestor of today's cattle that became extinct in the 17th century. It is believed they disappeared from what is now the Czech Republic in the 12th or 13th century. On Tuesday, a small herd was introduced to a Czech sanctuary as part of a project to use big-hoofed animals to maintain the steppe character of the former Milovice military base, 35 kilometers (22 miles) northeast of Prague. The beasts joined a herd of 15 wild horses from Britain's Exmoor National Park that were moved here in January with a task to stop the spread of aggressive and evasive grasses and bushes, delicacies to the animals.

Life & Style

Showing less skin: Playboy to stop running nude photos

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Teen-age boys in the U.S., for generations, got their first look at a naked woman from Playboy, often from a copy swiped from Dad's sock drawer or filched from a newsstand.

These days, however, you can see far more explicit photos on your phone than anything Hugh Hefner probably imagined when he launched his pioneering skin magazine 62 years ago with a centerfold of Marilyn Monroe.

Which is why, Playboy announced this week, it will stop running nude photos in the U.S. Its international editions will still contain nude photos.

"You're now one click away from every sex act imaginable for free. And so it's just passé at this juncture," Playboy Enterprises CEO Scott Flanders told The New York Times, which first reported the change.

In a move Playboy said had the blessing of the 89-year-old Hefner, the magazine will continue to publish what it called "sexy, seductive pictorials of the world's most beautiful women." But those women will presumably have some clothes on.

It's the end of an era, many said Tuesday, among them author Gay Talese, who wrote about Playboy and Hefner in his 1981 book about the sexual revolution, "Thy Neighbor's Wife."

"Playboy was important enough to be the first magazine in the mainstream that could both be called a literary magazine and a magazine for masturbation," he told The Associated Press.

During the magazine's heyday, subscribers could plausibly, if not always convincingly, claim they read it for the articles.

It published the work of such writers as John Updike, Jack Kerouac, Ray Bradbury and Joseph Heller and interviewed the likes of Jimmy Carter, Fidel Castro, Malcolm X, Muhammad Ali, Miles Davis, Frank Sinatra and Bob Dylan.

It also published nude photos of celebrities such as Drew Barrymore and Daryl Hannah and made stars of Playmates of the Month like Anna Nicole Smith.

The magazine that helped trigger the sexual revolution has seen its circulation plunge in recent decades, however, because of some of the very forces it helped set in motion.

First it had to deal with competition from more sexually explicit magazines like Penthouse and Hustler. Now it's up against the Internet, which is awash in high-definition porn.

So beginning in March, Playboy's U.S. print edition will look more like Esquire or GQ, magazines that carry PG-13-type pictures.

Playboy already took a simi-



lar step online more than a year ago. It banned full nudity on its website in August 2014 in a move that made the site safer for people to visit at work.

The company said the site saw the number of monthly unique visitors soar 400 percent. At the same time, it said, the median age of visitors fell from 47 to 30, a far more desir-

able demographic for advertisers.

One of the magazine's veteran contributors, celebrity interviewer David Rensin, praised the end of full nudity as something Playboy should have done years ago.

"It's a good business move. The magazine's got to keep up with the times," said Rensin,

This image released by Playboy AP shows the cover of the November 2013 issue of the gentleman's magazine.

whose list of interview subjects includes Bill Gates, Jerry Seinfeld and Martin Scorsese. More recently he interviewed Scarlett Johansson and also Lena Dunham, whom people can see nude simply by watching her TV show "Girls."

But for every newsmaker or celebrity who said yes to a Playboy interview, Rensin told the AP on Tuesday, there were others who said no because they didn't want their words to appear close to photographs of naked women.

One of those naked women, actress Kristy Swanson, also praised the change, though she added she will always fondly remember posing nude for her November 2002 pictorial. "I just think that change can be a good thing," she said.

Burlesque queen and former Playboy covergirl Dita Von Teese said she lamented "the

end of Playboy's Golden Age" when master photographers glorified models and movie stars.

"But truthfully, I think it was over a while ago as the cachet of posing for Playboy diminished the last several years," she said.

Others questioned whether the change comes too late to make much difference for the magazine, which has seen circulation fall from 5.6 million in 1975 to about 800,000 today, according to the Times, which cited the Alliance for Audited Media.

"The perception of what Playboy is is never going to change," said Samir Husni, director of the the Magazine Innovation Center at the University of Mississippi's Meek School of Journalism in Oxford.

"What's hurting Playboy today is, one, its name," he continued. "What gentleman today wants to consider himself a Playboy? And the competition. I mean, GQ is doing such a great job and Esquire is doing such a great job, so for men who want that combination of fun and real good solid content, they go elsewhere."

Jamaica's Marlon James wins the Booker Prize for fiction

LONDON (AP)—Marlon James became the first Jamaican winner of the prestigious Booker Prize for fiction Tuesday with a vivid, violent, exuberant and expletive-laden novel based on the attempted assassination of Bob Marley.



James

Michael Wood, chairman of the judging panel, said "A Brief History of Seven Killings" was "the most exciting book on the list" and a novel full of the "sheer pleasure" of language. He said it had been the unanimous choice of the five judges.

James was awarded the 50,000 pound (\$77,000) prize during a black-tie dinner at London's medieval Guildhall. The 44-year-old author said he almost gave up writing more than a decade ago when his first novel, "John Crow's Devil," was rejected by 70 publishers. He said winning the Booker Prize was "surreal," and joked that he would spend the prize money on a tailor-made suit or "every William Faulkner novel in hardcover."

He said he hoped his victory would bring "more attention to what's coming out of Jamaica and the Caribbean, because I think there are some brand-new voices coming out who are exploring contem-

porary society, who are exploring what's beyond politics, what's beyond colonialism."

"A Brief History of Seven Killings" charts political violence in Jamaica and the spread of crack cocaine in the U.S., and hinges on a 1976 attempt on the life of reggae superstar Marley—identified in the book only as "The Singer." The story is told in a cacophony of voices—from gangsters to ghosts, drug dealers to CIA agents—and in dialects ranging from American English to Jamaican patois.

James, who teaches creative writing at Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minnesota, said he saw the book as "a novel of exile."

He said distance from Jamaica had given him "a certain courage to go into topics like violence and the aftermath of violence and sexuality. ... I think I needed that distance and I needed that perspective."

Critics have compared the novel to the stream-of-consciousness novels of William Faulkner and the hyper-violent movies of Quentin Tarantino, while James has cited Charles Dickens as an influence on his multi-character depiction of society.

Former NBA star Odom found unconscious at Nevada brothel

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Former NBA and reality TV star Lamar Odom was hospitalized after he was found unconscious Tuesday at a Nevada brothel, authorities said.

The 35-year-old former Los Angeles Laker and onetime member-by-marriage of the Kardashian family was in a Las Vegas hospital Tuesday night and there was no immediate word on his condition, officials said.

The Nye County Sheriff's Department was called at about 3:15 p.m. to Love Ranch in Crystal, Nevada about 70 miles outside of Las Vegas for a report of an unresponsive man needing an ambulance, Sheriff Sharon A. Wehrly said in a statement.

The 35-year-old was stabilized and taken to Desert View Hospital in nearby Pahrump, the statement said. Officials then tried to have him airlifted to Las Vegas, but the 6-foot-10-inch Odom was too tall for the helicopter that was available and he was driven by ambulance to Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center.

The emergency call came from Richard Hunter, media director for Dennis Hof, who owns the Love Ranch and other brothels in Nevada, the sheriff's statement said.

Hof, who had his own reality series, "Cathouse," on HBO, told the Los Angeles Times and KNX-AM radio that Odom had been staying at Hof's home that is attached to the brothel since Saturday.

Hof told the Times that Odom "wanted to get away from everybody, wanted to have fun."

He said two women from the brothel found Odom unconscious in the afternoon after not seeing him since early in the morning.

He said when they turned him over, "terrible stuff came out" of his mouth or nose.

Hof said Odom had been taking herbal Viagra and had drunk part of a bottle of cognac since arriving, but had no knowledge of his use of any other drugs.

Odom's hospitalization was first reported by TMZ.

Representatives who have worked with Odom in the past did not immediately reply to requests for comment.

Odom, who won two NBA championships with the Lakers in 2009 and 2010, last played in the NBA in 2013, and saw recent reality TV fame through his four-

year marriage to Khloe Kardashian.

Kardashian filed for divorce in 2013, citing irreconcilable differences.

The two were married in 2009 in a large ceremony that was taped for the E! network, following a whirlwind engagement that was also filmed.

Some troubles that met Odom before and during his NBA career appeared to worsen after he left the league, and included a no-contest plea to drunken driving shortly before his divorce.

Odom most recently played for the Los Angeles Clippers during the 2012-13 season, his second stint with the team. He averaged 4.0 points, 5.9 rebounds and 1.7 assists playing all 82 games. He became a free agent in July 2013 but no other NBA team signed him.

In February 2014, Odom signed with a Spanish team on a two-month deal but a month later he returned to the U.S. because of a back injury. That April, he signed with the New York Knicks for what remained in the season, but he didn't appear in their final game and was waived that July.



Odom

Donald Trump to host 'Saturday Night Live' in November

NEW YORK (AP)—Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump will host NBC's "Saturday Night Live" next month, calling it a "great honor."

Trump told Fox News Channel on Tuesday that he and NBC settled their beauty pageant "dust-up" and have moved on.

In June, NBC said it would end its business relationship with Trump because of comments he made during the announcement of his presidential campaign about Mexican immigrants. The network dropped the annual Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants, which had been a joint venture between it and Trump.

Trump recounted Tuesday that he had purchased NBC's half of the Miss Universe Organization, which included the

two pageants, and sold the company to WME-IMG.

"It worked out well for everybody, so I think NBC's happy and I'm certainly happy, and we're doing 'Saturday Night Live' and that'll be exciting," Trump told Fox.

Asked how he thinks his appearance on "SNL" will go, Trump was upbeat.

"I think it's going to go fine. ... I've done it before. It's always a great honor," he said. He added that CBS' "60 Minutes" earned strong ratings for a September episode that included interviews with him and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"I think it's going to be good for them (NBC), it's going to be fine for me, and you know it's really very much of an honor when you can do a '60



In this Oct. 7, 2015 file photo, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump speaks during a campaign stop in Waterloo, Iowa.

Minutes' or a 'Saturday Night Live.' I think on your own little shelf it's very much of an honor," Trump said.

NBC said Tuesday that its former "Celebrity Apprentice" host will be the headliner of the Nov. 7 show. It's the second time he has hosted the comedy institution; he was on the show in April 2004. Trump was also skewered in the season premiere's opening sketch.

Trump has been ratings gold for nearly every television outlet he's touched since his presidential candidacy took off this summer, the main reason behind record viewership for the two GOP candidates' debates in August and September.

Sia will be the "Saturday Night Live" musical guest on the night that Trump hosts.

Connick Jr. to host daytime show with comedy, music

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Harry Connick Jr. is adding the title of daytime show host to his resume.

The jazzman, actor and "American Idol" judge will host a new syndicated program set to debut in fall 2016.

NBC Universal Domestic Television Distribution said Tuesday it has sold the show, titled "Harry," to Fox-owned TV stations in 17 U.S. markets.

The show also is being sold to

other station groups, according to NBC Universal Domestic TV, which is producing it.

The "Harry" show will be a variety program for the "new millennium," combining comedy, live musical performances and stunts, NBC Universal said.

In a statement, Connick said he welcomed the chance to make people smile on a daily basis.

He is returning to Fox's "American Idol" for its final season, which begins early next year.

Panettiere enters treatment for postpartum depression

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Hayden Panettiere is entering treatment for postpartum depression.

A spokeswoman for the actress says in a statement that the "Nashville" star is voluntarily seeking professional help at a treatment center while battling postpartum depression. She asked that the media respect her privacy during this time.

Panettiere (PAN-et-TEA-AIR) gave birth to her daughter in December. It's the first child for the 26-year-old actress and 39-year-old professional boxer Wladimir Klitschko.

Notably, Panettiere's character on "Nashville," Juliette Barnes, has experienced postpartum depression. The actress also starred in the NBC series "Heroes" and the film "Scream 4."

Jay Z attends start of trial over 1999 hit 'Big Pimpin'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A copyright infringement trial over Jay Z's hit song "Big Pimpin'" opened Tuesday with an attorney for heirs of an Egyptian composer accusing the rapper of misusing music from a popular 1950s love ballad.

Jay Z, whose real name is Shawn Carter, listened as a lawyer for the heirs of Egyptian composer Baligh Hamdi accused him and Timbaland of violating rights to Hamdi's 1957 hit, "Khosara Khosara" to create "Big Pimpin'."

Attorney Pete Ross accused Carter of lacing vulgar lyrics over Hamdi's beautiful melody

without receiving the proper permission. Carter's lyrics however aren't at issue in the case, and lawyers for Carter and Timbaland say they secured the appropriate rights to feature "Khosara Khosara" on "Big Pimpin'."

Timbaland, whose real name is Timothy Mosely, also attended the opening of the trial. His attorney, Christine Lepera, told jurors that he initially used elements of Hamdi's work thinking it was royalty-free, but he later secured the appropriate rights.

Ross disputes that statement, and he accused the men of violating Hamdi's "moral rights," a legal concept he said is well-established in Egypt that would have required them to get permission to use elements of "Khosara Khosara" in a song celebrating a promiscuous lifestyle.

"Khosara Khosara" was featured in a 1957 Egyptian film and became a major hit, Ross said.

Lepera denied "moral rights" were at issue in the case and said evidence would show that Hamdi's heirs had been repeatedly paid for the incorporating the composer's music into "Big Pimpin'." She also denied that the rap song use major elements of Hamdi's work, saying much of its music was simple and not copyrightable.

The trial will resume Wednesday with testimony from an expert on Egyptian music who began testifying Tuesday about Hamdi's life and influence.

It is the second major case to go to trial in Los Angeles involving allegations that a hit song infringes on another artist's rights. In March, a federal jury ruled that Robin Thicke and Pharrell Williams violated the copyright of Marvin Gaye's hit "Got to Give It Up" to create their hit song "Blurred Lines."

Gaye's family was initially awarded \$7.4 million, but a judge later trimmed the verdict to \$5.3 million.

Suge Knight, Katt Williams ordered to trial in robbery case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Marion "Suge" Knight and comedian Katt Williams should stand trial on charges they robbed a celebrity photographer of her camera last year, a judge ruled Tuesday.

Los Angeles Superior Court Ronald Coen said there was enough evidence to support the robbery charges and a separate

charge of felony criminal threats filed against Knight over comments he made to the photographer before she was attacked in Beverly Hills in September 2014.

Attorneys for Williams and Knight said their clients were trying to prevent the photographer from shooting images of Knight's young son. Knight's

lawyer Thomas Mesereau denied his client was actively involved in taking the camera, saying the photographer's testimony and surveillance footage supported his contention that the Death Row Records co-founder never touched the photographer or took her camera.

He said Knight was upset

because Leslie Redden and another photographer were shooting images of son just says after Knight was wounded in a nightclub shooting.

"The only evidence that exists is he didn't want his son photographed," Mesereau said. "Any father would have acted as he did."

Widower tells mom to butt out of plans with pregnant girlfriend

DEAR ABBY: My son, a widower with two boys, ages 6 and 9, has just informed me that his 33-year-old girlfriend, "Karen," is pregnant and due in five months. He started seeing her three months after his wife died, and they have been an item for eight months. She has been staying at his house every weekend, and plans to move in with him soon.

Karen has never been married and has no children, so she will become a stepmom and a new mom in a short period of time. Neither my son nor Karen seems to realize how difficult it will be to bring a stepparent into this situation, especially with a new baby on the way. One of the boys will have to give up his bedroom when the baby arrives. I'm concerned that the boys will be overwhelmed by this, when they have not yet been able to effectively deal with the death of their mother.

I think this relationship has moved too fast and they are clueless about how all this will affect the boys. My son has told me I need to "get over it, it's his life and his kids." Is there anything I can do to help the boys process all of this and adjust to the new situation?

WISE LADY IN THE SOUTH

DEAR WISE LADY: Nowhere in your letter have you mentioned that the boys are depressed or acting out. They probably like Karen or the relationship wouldn't have lasted as long as it has.

It appears that in trying to be helpful you may have come

across as negative or judgmental. If that's true, apologize to your son and suggest that if the adjustment becomes difficult for his boys, a family therapist could help to nip any problems in the bud. Then cross your fingers and hope it isn't necessary.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married 10 years. Half of his family are smokers. Every year, there has been a family gathering at his dad's house. Since the birth of my first child, smoking has become forbidden in that home.

This year, however, the party will be held at the home of another where smoking will be permitted. I can't handle smoke. It gives me a sore throat and I cough for a week after exposure. Because of my reaction and for the health of my children, I don't want to attend. (When we get home we have to immediately shower and launder our clothing to get rid of the smell.)

My husband is adamant that we SHOULD attend and bring the kids. He was raised around smoking and doesn't see what the "big deal" is. What can I say or do to convince him not to force me and our children to be exposed to the health hazards of secondhand smoke? Am I being unreasonable because it's only one night a year?

HATER OF SMOKING IN WEST VIRGINIA

DEAR HATER OF SMOKING: I think so. Much as you might like, you can't raise your children in a bubble. I would

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



hate to see you isolate your children from their aunts, uncles, cousins and any grandparents who are still alive during their once-a-year holiday celebration.

If you would prefer not to attend because you can't stand the smell of the smoke, stay home. But do not prevent your children from knowing the family. Assuming they don't have health issues, one evening of exposure to cigarette smoke shouldn't be harmful.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

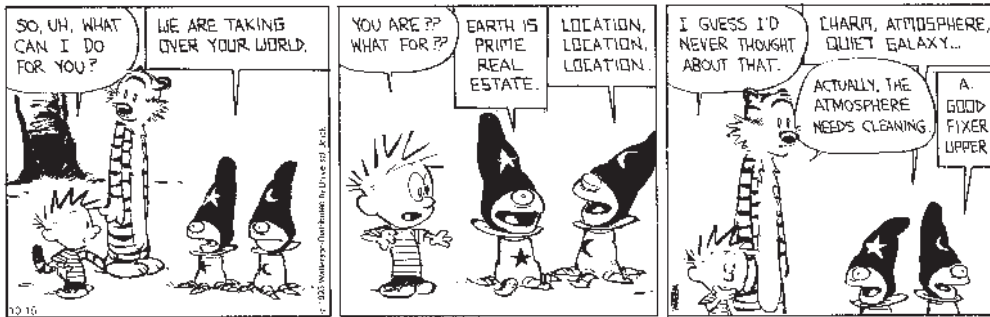
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

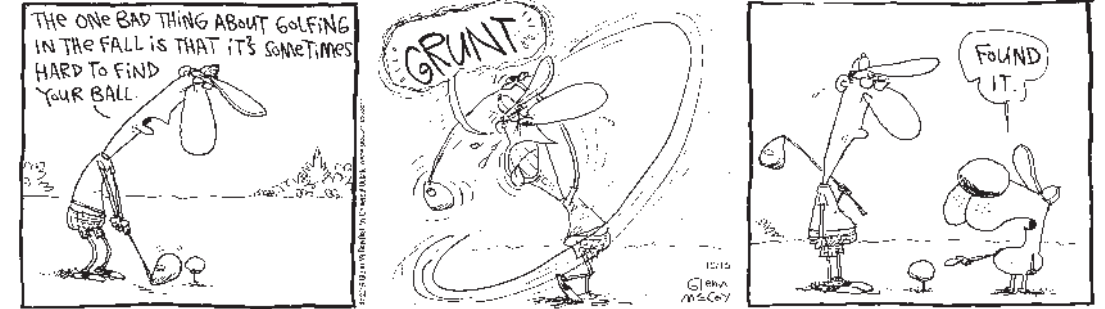


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Boutique
5 Suitcase
8 Unuttered "alas"
12 — Berra
13 Id counterpart
14 Dandling site
15 Dealer's foe
16 Scarlet
17 Misfortunes
18 Nativity setup
20 Get steamed up
22 E.T.'s venue
26 Grown-up
29 Churchill's gesture
30 Needle-fish
31 "And — bed": Pepys
32 Plaything
33 Mine, in part
34 Dead heat
35 Stir-fry pan
36 Clumsy

DOWN

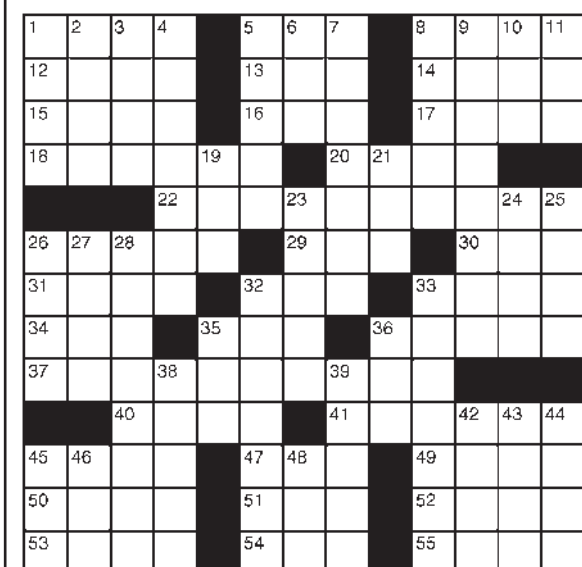
37 Nirvana, maybe
40 "Simon —"
41 Method
45 Use a wooden spoon
47 Vanna's cohort
49 Matador's foe
50 War, to Gen. Sherman
51 Altar affirmative
52 Once more, in the Ozarks
53 Simple
54 Neither mate
55 Poolroom triangle

25 Formerly, formerly
26 Italian wine region
27 Slay
28 Knife and fork, e.g.
32 Tennis tactic
33 Low-rated, as a hotel
35 Like some humor
36 Unfriendly
38 Way before deadline
39 Nancy, the first woman in Parliament
42 Frat-party garb
43 Idle of Monty Python
44 Tony Shalhoub series
45 The woman
46 Afternoon affair
48 Commotion

Solution time: 25 mins.

MOB	CAVE	SEC	TITHE
TOPAZ	AGHAST		
WILLIAM	AMHOPPER		
ONE	QUIT	S	RAN
	NULL	W	ICA
SATED	LOATH		
RUTH	WAVY		
EST	NATIVE	HAP	
PHI	IPMA	FLOWER	
ICECAP	AUGER		
AVERS	CRUD		
IRT	TEE		

Yesterday's answer 10-15



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Vanessa Marcil, 47; Emeril Lagasse, 56; Sarah Ferguson, 56; Penny Marshall, 72.

Happy Birthday: Your ability to recognize a problem and take action will put you in a position of power. You will attract both positive and negative attention. Take the positives and make them work to your advantage. Your stellar motives and what you do for others will separate you from the crowd. Show your strengths and work on your weaknesses. Your numbers are 7, 14, 23, 26, 33, 39, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Draw on your resources and you'll come up with an interesting idea that you can incorporate into your everyday routine to make your life easier. A financial move will bring you long-term benefits. Personal improvements will boost your morale. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A partnership opportunity is worth checking out. Don't sell yourself short when it comes to what you can contribute. Keep the deals you make fair and you will avoid problems. Romance and celebration will go hand-in-hand. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Accept the inevitable. You'll be torn between the choices that arise. Use your intelligence and you will be able to make a deal that everyone can live with as long as you make sure to honor your word. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Work on a project you enjoy and you will get good results. Socialize with people who share your opinions and interests, and love will blossom. ★★★

New developments will unfold that will offer an unusual method of reaching your goal. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Family matters will cause concern. Avoid personal discussions until you have all the facts. Find out what you are dealing with before you jump in and take over. Protect your reputation as well as your belongings, assets and important relationships. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Making changes to an agreement or partnership will be to your benefit. Use your intelligence and talents and you will find a way to deal with someone who is holding you back. Love is highlighted. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Ask questions and find out where you stand in order to make a decision that will protect and benefit you. A career move will help you raise your standard of living and provide a boost to your confidence. ★★

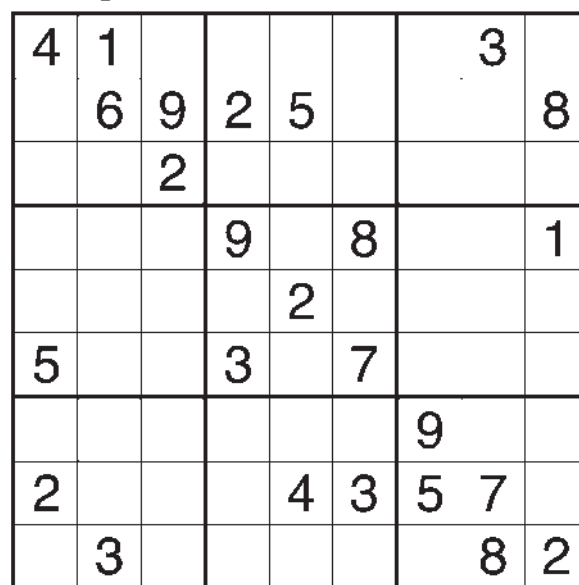
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Relax and do something that makes you happy. A creative project or spending time with someone who inspires you or makes you smile will help you rejuvenate and get back on track both personally and professionally. Love is in the stars. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make your life easier and more convenient. Once you feel good about the way you live, it will be easier to focus on working hard and getting ahead. Don't allow your life to become full of clutter. ★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



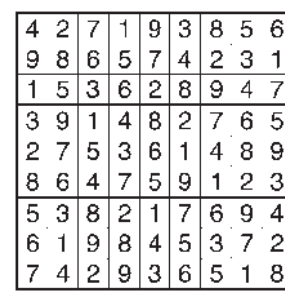
Difficulty Level ★★★

10/15

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★

10/15

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):**

Check details that can affect the outcome of a deal. Make plans with someone you love and want to spend more time collaborating with. Love is on the rise, and sharing affectionate moments with someone special will bring you closer together. ★★★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):**

Check into new job opportunities. A change of position will help stabilize your future. An investment will lead to a change in lifestyle. Someone close to you will need your undivided attention. ★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):**

Do something that will benefit your community or family. Open up a discussion that allows everyone to voice an opinion. You will win favors if you make everyone feel included and important. Friendly persuasion will ensure that you get your way. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are captivating, unpredictable and unique. You are outgoing and direct.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

"GAME OF THRONES" (TV SERIES)

Solution: 8 letters

R C K F A N T A S Y E D A E H
E E I S E S U O H R E M M U S
T R T W E L P S T T K I N G E
E S H S A H A U W A R R I O R
P E A Y I N R Y W W A I D A N
R I R E E N N I O S L T R S R
I A I L E I N N N R C H O Y N
N S N R W T S A N M E E L R E
C S G Y E H S I L Y S O N E Y
E I T R H D A I A N S N E N R
M E O A I I V R O M O O L E A
I W N V R I L V O R S I G A G
L B A S C K E L B J O N R D R
I D I N K L A G E M I A J Y A
A T S A F L E B E N I O F F T

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Aidan, Arya, Belfast, Benloft, Bronn, Cersai, Civil, Clarke, Daenerys, David, D.B. Weiss, Dinklage, Emilia, Essos, Fantasy, Glen, Headey, Hill, Houses, Iain, Jaime, Jon, Jorah, King, Kit Harington, Lannister, Lena, Lord, Maisie, Novel, Nym, Peter, Prince, Royal, Sansa, Snow, Sophie, Stark, Summer, Targaryen, Theon, Turner, Tyrion, Tywin, Warrior, Winter

Yesterday's Answer: Gimmicks

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Interested applicants may contact Fuji Pacific, Inc. at 234-0583 and ask for Nita San Nicolas or fax resume and police clearance to 234-3605.

WHATZIT Solution: A sitting duck

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Saipan

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Cubs win NL Division Series, beat Cardinals in Game 4



CHICAGO

(AP) — Joe Maddon posed for a selfie on the field with his wife. Jon Lester sprayed champagne with his young son. Rocker Eddie Vedder partied on the mound.

For the Chicago Cubs and their ever-hopeful fans, this bash was a long time in the making.

Kyle Schwarber, Anthony Rizzo and Javier Baez homered and the fresh Cubs clinched a postseason series at Wrigley Field for the first time ever, beating the St. Louis Cardinals 6-4 Tuesday to win the NL Division Series in four games.

"This is all just baseball fantasy, right?" a drenched chairman Tom Ricketts said.

Only once since they last brought home the World Series in 1908 had the Cubs won a playoff series and never before had they finished off the job at their century-plus-old ballpark.

But with a raucous, towel-waving crowd jamming the Friendly Confines, the North Siders gave generations of fans exactly what they wanted. And as they gathered in the pulsating neighborhood, the lit-up marquee at Wrigley Field said it all: Cubs Win.

"I can only imagine what the next thing is going to look like," said Lester, the lefty who twice won the World Series with Boston. "And the next thing after that."

The crowd started roaring before the first pitch. And when closer Hector Rondon struck out Stephen Piscotty on a ball in the dirt and catcher Miguel Montero made the tag to end it, the Cubs came streaming out of the dugout.

"They deserve it," Rizzo said in the middle of the party. "Hopefully, this is just a taste of what's to come."

Up-and-comers all season



Chicago Cubs players celebrate after winning Game 4 in baseball's National League Division Series, Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2015, in Chicago. The Cubs won 4-6.

Cubs starter Jason Hammel allowed two runs and three hits. He exited after giving up a leadoff walk to Jhonny Peralta in the fourth.

Seven relievers combined to hold the Cardinals to two runs and five hits the rest of the way. Trevor Cahill picked up the win and Rondon worked the ninth for the save.

Hammel settled down after giving up a two-run homer to Piscotty on the game's fourth pitch. He also singled in a run with two out in the second before Baez connected against Lackey, the man the Cardinals were counting on to keep their season going, to make it 4-2.

Lackey gave up four runs and four hits over three innings after outpitching former teammate Lester in a dominant series opener.

The Cardinals, playing without catcher Yadier Molina (left thumb), failed to advance in the postseason after winning at least one series the previous four years.

"I definitely think the ballpark had something to do with this. They also have a really good lineup," Lackey said.

St. Louis scored two in the sixth to tie it. But the rally ended with Tony Cruz - who drove in a run with a two-out double - getting thrown out at home by Jorge Soler trying to score on Brandon Moss' RBI single to right.

"I will be shocked if they're not in the World Series or winning it," Piscotty said. "They're playing well. You got to tip your hat."

under their first-year manager, Maddon's bunch of wild-card Cubs had arrived.

As the music blared and the strobe lights flashed in the clubhouse, Cubs players and coaches soaked each other. Then they took the celebration back onto the field as fans went crazy - Vedder, from the local area, pitched right in.

The Cubs will face the winner of the Los Angeles Dodgers-New York Mets matchup. The Mets took a 2-1 lead into Game 4 Tuesday night.

Chicago will play Game 1 Saturday on the road.

No team was hotter down the stretch than Chicago, which finished third in the majors with 97 wins after five straight losing seasons.

The Cubs knocked out the two teams that finished ahead of them in the NL Central, beating Pittsburgh in the wild-card game and sending St. Louis home after it led the majors with 100 wins.

"I think we're too young to even realize what we just did," young slugger Kris Bryant said. "It truly is a special time right now."

The banged-up Cardinals had reached the NLCS in the last four years.

"It was just unfortunate," St. Louis manager Mike Matheny said. "This is a team that was as impressive to watch from Day One as any team I've ever been around."

"That's always hard to walk away from. We had an opportunity maybe to get back home and do things differently, but they took advantage of the opportunities they had," he said.

Rizzo's solo drive to right off losing pitcher Kevin Siegrist in the sixth put Chicago back on top 5-4 after St. Louis scored two in the top half.

As if the fans were already

hollering at the top of their lungs after that home run, they were really screaming after Schwarber's monstrous shot leading off the seventh. The ball landed on top of the right-field video board and wound up nestled against a railing on the front edge.

The late drives by Rizzo and Schwarber along with Baez's three-run homer off John Lackey in the second came after Chicago set a postseason record with six long balls in Monday's win.

And with the ball flying out again, the Cubs won for the 12th time in 13 games.

Kershaw, Dodgers top Mets, force NLDS to decisive Game 5

NEW YORK (AP)—Short rest has never been the issue for Clayton Kershaw in October. Winning when he couldn't afford to lose, that was the problem.

Kershaw finally came through with the season on the line Tuesday night, saving Los Angeles from another early playoff exit by pitching the Dodgers to a 3-1 victory over the New York Mets that forced their NL Division Series to a deciding Game 5.

Working on only three days' rest, Kershaw shut down the Mets for seven innings and Justin Turner delivered a key hit against his former team. The series shifts back to Los Angeles on Thursday night, with fellow Dodgers ace Zack Greinke scheduled to start against Jacob deGrom.

The winner hosts the wild-card Chicago Cubs in the NL Championship Series opener Saturday.

"Definitely happy to be go-

ing back home," Kershaw said. "They like us a little better there."

Still the target of chanting Mets fans, Chase Utley watched from the bench again as the Dodgers did enough at the plate to hand hometown rookie Steven Matz his first loss in the majors.

Unable to muster much offense against Kershaw, the Mets squandered their only chance to close out the series at home.

"Tonight he was commanding all three (pitches) and was just flat-out unhittable," New York captain David Wright said.

Kershaw's one-out single led to a three-run third. Adrian Gonzalez blooped an RBI single and Turner added a two-run double, providing support for the lefty ace.

The reigning NL MVP and three-time Cy Young Award winner snapped a five-start losing streak in the playoffs—the longest in Dodgers history.

"I'm actually really happy for him. I mean, this kid is tremendous. Everything that you're supposed to be, he is," Dodgers manager Don Mattingly said. "This guy's an animal, the way he works, represents us, the game of baseball, himself. I mean, he's really a credit to the game, and so you're really happy for him to be able to do that tonight."

After dropping the series opener 3-1 to deGrom, Kershaw was 1-6 with a 4.99 ERA in 12 career postseason games, including nine starts. He lost elimination games each of the past two years, once on three days' rest.

But this time, Kershaw was just as dominant as he normally is during the regular season.

"There's no curse or anything," he said. "Just got to get through the seventh."

He struck out eight, walked one and yielded only three hits, quieting another revved-up

crowd at Citi Field as the night wore on. Daniel Murphy hit his second solo homer off Kershaw in the series, both coming in the fourth inning.

Kenley Jansen got four outs for his second save. With two runners on in the eighth and the count full, he retired Murphy on a fly to right. The right-hander then worked a 1-2-3 ninth as the Dodgers ended a seven-game losing streak in road playoff games.

"I feel confident with Zack going in Game 5 back home," Kershaw said. "I really wanted to win tonight, definitely. For a lot of reasons, but obviously most important was just to give Zack a chance."

Kershaw improved to 1-1 with a 1.89 ERA in a trio of playoff starts on three days' rest.

With a \$290 million payroll that's \$66 million higher than any other team, the Dodgers are seeking their first pennant since winning the 1988 World Series.

They've captured three straight NL West titles but won only one playoff series during that span - in part because Kershaw got little run support in four consecutive postseason losses to St. Louis.

But after Los Angeles allowed 13 runs to the Mets in Game 3, a Dodgers postseason record, Kershaw restored order when his team absolutely needed it.

The 24-year-old Matz was pitching in a big league game for the first time in 19 days after a balky back sidelined him late in the season. Still, he looked sharp early and snapped off several effective curveballs.

That same pitch caused him trouble, too.

Kershaw singled to left-center on a 2-2 curve for the first hit of the game. With two outs, Howie Kendrick grounded a single up the middle and Gonzalez dumped an RBI single into center.

Turner then lined a 2-0 curve into the left-field corner to make

it 3-0, tormenting his former team yet again. Let go by the Mets after the 2013 season—they declined to offer him arbitration - he is 7 for 15 (.467) in the series with four doubles and three RBIs.

"Honestly, I never thought he'd be this good of a hitter. He's one of the best hitters in the game," Kershaw said. "We thought he'd be a great utility player."

Matz grew up a Mets fan on Long Island, about 50 miles from Citi Field, and his family attended the game. He went 4-0 with a 2.27 ERA in six major league starts this season, but the team saw enough to pitch him in the playoffs—in part because Matz threw gems to help clinch championships at Class A in 2013 and Double-A last year.

"The one pitch I know he wants back is the pitch to Kershaw," Collins said. "We've got all the confidence in the world that if we get to the next round, he's going to be a part of that rotation."

NFL acknowledges game clock error in Steelers-Chargers game

HOWARD FENDRICH
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER



For the second week in a row, the NFL acknowledged an officiating error in a nationally televised game.

This time, the problem was twofold: 18 seconds were incorrectly run off the clock late in the fourth quarter Monday night in the Pittsburgh Steelers' 24-20 victory at the San Diego Chargers—and none of the game officials noticed the gaffe and corrected it.

In a statement emailed Tuesday, league spokesman Michael Signora said that “an error by the clock operator” after a touchback allowed the extra time to tick away, and “it is the responsibility of the side judge to supervise the timing of the game.”

The statement added: “Had the side judge or any of the other six on-field officials noticed the timing error, they could have corrected it.”

In last week's Monday night game, an official missed a late-game call in Seattle's 13-10 victory over Detroit, giving the Seahawks the ball even though one of their defenders knocked a fumbled ball out of the end zone, which should be a penalty. That prompted the NFL's head of officiating, Dean Blandino, to say that the officials blew it.

The most recent Monday night mistake happened after San Diego kicked a field goal to take a 20-17 lead with 2:56 left.



Pittsburgh Steelers running back Le'Veon Bell reacts to fans as he celebrates defeating the San Diego Chargers in an NFL football game Monday, Oct. 12, 2015, in San Diego. AP

The ensuing kickoff sailed out of the end zone for a touchback, so the clock never should have started. Instead, it did begin moving, and by the time Pittsburgh lined up for the first play of its crucial drive, only 2:38 remained.

“When you see a kick go over the end line, never in your wildest dreams would you think the clock is going to start. Neither

team was aware of it. ESPN wasn't aware of it. Nobody was aware of it. The clock operator is the one who should take the hit,” Mike Pereira, Blandino's predecessor at the NFL, said in a telephone interview.

“It does happen where a few seconds tick off; it doesn't happen very often where 18 tick off. It shouldn't happen,” Pereira said. “Ultimately, the officials on the

field are responsible. ... Everybody needs to be cognizant.”

With back-to-back prime-time problems, it might seem as officials are more prone to miscues these days.

Pereira, though, noted that those miscues are easier to catch now.

“Social media has made it so much more difficult right now, because everyone is track-

ing everything. All one person needs to do is see it and put it on social media and then the world finds out about it,” he said. “Years ago, something like this may not have been discovered.”

As it turns out, despite the clock fail, the Steelers managed to make it all the way downfield in time to score the go-ahead points on the final play from scrimmage, a 1-yard TD run by

Le'Veon Bell.

“Everyone is probably lucky the Steelers won on that last down,” Pereira said.

And, not surprisingly, Pittsburgh coach Mike Tomlin's take was, essentially: All's well that ends well.

“It didn't define the outcome of the game,” Tomlin said Tuesday, “so I'm moving on with my workweek.”

The truth is, of course, there really is no way to know how the outcome of the game could have been different had those extra 18 seconds not been “lost.” Perhaps San Diego would have been left with enough time for a play or two - or a kickoff return for a TD. Or perhaps Pittsburgh would have called things differently on offense with more room on the clock, maybe running time down to nothing, anyway.

Who knows?

Signora's statement noted: “The performance of the clock operator and game officials will be reviewed per the standard procedure for reviewing every play of every game.”

Each game-clock operator is hired by the league, not the home team, and lives near the stadium hosting a regular-season game. In the playoffs, the league uses operator who don't live in the area.

Pereira could recall only one issue with a game-clock operator when he was in charge of NFL officiating: A decade ago, a team asked him to replace its clock person. That team? The Chargers.

Freeman survives tough upbringing to emerge as Falcons star

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. (AP)—Devonta Freeman stops by his locker, but not for long.

He hurriedly pulls on his No. 24 jersey, then hustles off to the weight room to get in a few more lifts before practice.

For Freeman, there's always a little more that can be done.

As the tattoo on his left arm says, “Failure Is Not An Option.”

“Nothing was ever given to me,” Freeman said Tuesday, at the end of another long day at the Falcons training complex. “A lot of times, I wasn't better than a lot of players on my team. There was more talent than me. I just always worked harder.”

From surviving the streets of Miami to ignoring skeptics who wondered if he was big enough to make it on the gridiron, Freeman has spent most of his 23 years overcoming the odds.

“I feel like I've been an underdog my whole life,” he said. Maybe not anymore.

Five weeks into his second NFL season, Freeman has emerged as an unlikely star on one of the league's most surprising teams. The Atlanta Falcons (5-0) are off to the second-best start in franchise history heading into Thursday night's game at New Orleans.

Their 5-foot-8 running back is a big reason why.



Atlanta Falcons running back Devonta Freeman (24) heads to the end zone for a touchdown against Houston Texans free safety Rahim Moore (26) during the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Oct. 4, 2015, in Atlanta. AP

Freeman, who missed the entire preseason with a hamstring injury and didn't even get his first start until Week 3, leads the league with eight rushing touchdowns, is tied for second with 405 yards on the ground, and has given quarterback Matt Ryan another weapon in the passing game with 24 receptions.

“He's an explosive runner,” Saints coach Sean Payton said.

“Man, I'm telling you, the way he finishes, there's a little bit of violence in how he plays—in a good way.”

None of this is a revelation to Dwight Jackson, who runs a funeral home in Miami and has been like a father to Freeman since his days growing up in a notorious Liberty City housing complex known as “Pork 'n' Beans.”

Early on, Jackson saw something different in Freeman.

“He was determined not to be that guy who sold drugs. He was determined not to be that guy who was selling themselves to the street,” Jackson said Tuesday in a telephone interview. “He had a different kind of spirit. He was a different kind of kid.”

Freeman went to work in Jackson's funeral home when he was only 13, putting some much-needed cash in his pocket

but, more importantly, gaining a startling perspective on the grim realities of life and death.

“I've seen people's whole insides having to be stuffed in a bag and put back in their body, their heads peeled all the way back to their face,” Freeman said, shaking his head. “I saw it all working in a funeral home. And I saw a lot of kids my age was in there because they got shot up and stuff like that. It was a life lesson: stay away from the streets.”

Actually, baseball was Freeman's first love. He still goes to the batting cages around Atlanta when he's got some free time. Lately, he's been teaching himself how to switch-hit.

But football was his way out, earning Freeman a scholarship to Florida State.

In his final season, he rushed for more than 1,000 yards and helped the Seminoles win the national championship. Even then, he entered the NFL draft projected as more of a part-time back, a guy who could catch passes on third down but not handle the job on a regular basis. As a rookie, he showed flashes of his potential but played infrequently behind Steven Jackson, hauling in 30 receptions and rushing for 248 yards.

After a disappointing 6-10 season, the Falcons fired coach

Mike Smith and brought in Dan Quinn. Jackson was let go as well, and Freeman went into training camp looking to battle for the starting job with rookie Tevin Coleman. But the hamstring injury derailed those plans, handing the starting job to Coleman for the first two games.

That setback pushed Freeman to work even harder.

“I saw the competitor,” Quinn said. “I saw how frustrated he was when he was injured. But he got a chance to go for it again.”

When Coleman was sidelined by a rib injury, Freeman stepped in to rush for six touchdowns in his first two games as the starter—the youngest player since Jim Brown in 1958 to pull off that feat. Last Sunday, Freeman rushed for a career-best 153 yards in an overtime victory over Washington.

No matter how much success he has, Freeman vows never to forget where he came from. He thinks of his mother and his grandmother, who provided such a steadying influence. He thinks of mentors such as Jackson and Luther Campbell of 2 Live Crew fame.

“Football seems like a piece of cake,” Freeman said, as the sun set on another long day. “I can grind all day long.”

Appreciation: Spurrier changed the game, did things his way

EDDIE PELLIS
AP NATIONAL WRITER

Steve Spurrier knew how to tweet long before it became something you did on your phone.

In 140 characters or less, the coach could cut right to the heart of the matter, make his own fans laugh and get everyone to pay attention.

And as good as he was with a quip, he was even better with a pencil in hand, drawing up plays.

The man who liked to call himself the “Head Ball Coach” coached ‘em up better than anyone for about a decade.

In the early 1990s, Spurrier turned college football upside down in the Southeastern Conference and across the nation. He revived his alma mater, Florida, and, more importantly, made other coaches believe that you could throw the ball, have some fun and collect a few wins—and even a few enemies—along the way.

And so, when you turn on the TV this Saturday and watch programs from Oregon to Flor-

ida and, yes, even in Texas, spreading out their offenses, throwing on every down and looking to hang 50—not such a feat anymore—you might take a second to thank the ol’ ball coach.

“He had fun doing it,” said Spurrier’s buddy, and old boss, Florida athletic director Jeremy Foley.

He did it at pretty much everyone’s expense.

Oh, yes, they used to hate this sunburned, visor-tossing, invective-spewing genius, who was known around the South, not-so-lovingly, as “Coach Superior.”

He cared not one bit.

“At least they’re not calling us losers anymore,” Spurrier said during the last of his 12 successful seasons at Florida. “If people like you too much, it’s probably because they’re beating you.”

He leaves South Carolina looking a bit beaten—at 70, a shadow of that lightning-rod of a man he used to be.

His two-year stint as an NFL coach was a failure. That he was lauded by the South Carolina president for helping that



South Carolina head football coach Steve Spurrier speaks at a news conference to announce he is resigning on Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2015, at the University Of South Carolina, in Columbia, S.C.

program to three 11-win seasons and an SEC East title was

a sign of how much things have changed.

Those would’ve been mere stepping stones at Florida, where he won 122 games, along with six SEC titles and one national championship over his dozen game-changing years.

He became a more conservative, less dramatic and, ultimately, less successful coach as the years clicked along at South Carolina.

That should not be his lasting legacy.

He was the coach who singlehandedly took Bear Bryant’s close-to-the-vest, ground-centric SEC on a high-flying ride

it has yet to come down from. Using his Fun ‘N’ Gun offense, Spurrier turned quarterbacks Danny Wuerffel, Shane Matthews, Doug Johnson and Rex Grossman into college-football stars. None of them did much at the NFL, which was further tribute to the coach’s ability to coax the most out of less-than-Grade A talent.

Things we see every week now used to be news when Spurrier coached the Gators.

All that visor tossing and the arms-crossed, spittle-flying lectures he gave to the quarterbacks—the reruns of those moments almost seem quaint today. Only last month, Florida’s

current coach, Jim McElwain, had to apologize for an over-the-top tirade toward Kelvin Taylor, who happens to be the son of one of Spurrier’s best players.

The great one-liners—“Can’t spell citrus without U-T,” “FSU stands for Free Shoes University”—that’s come-and-go stuff in today’s world of Twitter.

Remember rivalries? They’re more quaint than meaningful in today’s version of the college game, which has been reset in an era of expanded super-conferences.

Spurrier was from a different mold.

Saipan Little League hopes to elect new officials

The Saipan Little League board is hoping more stakeholders would attend tomorrow’s general membership meeting at 5pm at the pavilion behind the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Outgoing Saipan Little League Board Inc. president Ben Jones has requested all managers and coaches who participated last season, parents, and volunteers to attend the meeting.

The main agenda is the elec-

tion of the new members of the board—president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, chief statistician, player agent, and safety officer—for the 2016 SLL season.

The meeting is also open to other individuals who want to volunteer in the Saipan Little League baseball program.

A new set of SLL board should have been elected last weekend but Jones postponed

the nomination and election since only 12 attended Saturday’s general membership meeting.

The new board members, headed by the president, will next plan the upcoming 2016 Little League season.

For more information, call incumbent SLL vice president Annie Flores at 2851219 or secretary and player agent Piding Tenorio at 2851024. *(Jon Perez)*



SALVI

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(1,368), Desiree Bustos (1,357), and Lauren Laffosse (1,352).

Johnson, a United States Air Force enlisted personnel stationed at Andersen Air Force Base, showed his three-year skills as he topped both days. He represented CrossFit Hita and CrossFit Andersen.

The WODs depend on the program given by the gym,

Chamorro CrossFit, and were divided into three events per day. The participant who makes the most number of repetitions in a WOD within the given time limit wins.

The WODs in the first day were rows, toes-to-bars, AbMat sit ups, knees-to-elbows, TTBs, wallballs, hang power cleans, overhead squat, 400-meter run, deadlifts, and burpees-over-bar.

Day 2 is composed of double-unders, celand and jerk,

thrusters, snatch, chest-to-bar pull-ups, chin-over-bar or chest-to-bar, pistols, bar muscle-ups, and rope climbs.

Villanueva, who used to coach at GetFit CNMI but stopped to concentrate with his studies, was at third place after Day 1 behind Johnson and Michael Coghill, who dropped to sixth place with 1,236 points.

The Northern Marianas College-External Relations Office

graphic designer and videographer said that he continued working out either at his home gym or at Gold’s Gym in preparation for the Trench Throw-down. He was also surprised to finish second in his first competition in Guam.

“I could have won if Alex did not get stationed in Guam,” Villanueva said with a laugh. “Still, I’m satisfied with my performance.”

Villanueva added that he was

uncertain on what to expect during the competition. “I was a bit anxious going into the competition floor, because I had no idea who were the best competitors and who is going to dominate.”

“But I trusted my training and did everything to the best of my abilities. And a huge motivator was my strong-willed grandfather who had recently passed,” added Villanueva, who won bronze in weightlifting’s 77-kilogram division in

last year’s Micronesian Games in Pohnpei.

Villanueva said he plans to compete in an Olympic weightlifting tournament in Guam in December and then join Tudela and Harkness in another CrossFit event organized by CrossFit Latte Stone in January also in Guam.

CrossFit WODs are a combination of endurance training, gymnastics, and weightlifting merged into a single workout.

CES

From Page 28

ever, Tibayan only went 2-for-4 from the 15-foot line, allowing Erika’s/Ferrera to hang on to the one-point lead, 66-65.

Again, CES Electronics had an opportunity to grab the upper hand when Erika’s/Ferrera’s Dante Tabora missed a reverse layup following Rodney Catala’s steal off Ferdie Tobias in the inbound play. However, CES Electronics lost possession on the other end with Sonny Ebuen having butterfingers. CES Electronics then committed another

booboo when Ariel Abadilla was called for technical foul for shouting at Jerry Lopez, who was pulling up for a jumper near the foul line.

Gatdula hit the technical free throw to up their lead to 2, 67-65, and later fed Illahi off a perfect inbound play to make it a 4-point cushion, 69-65, with 25.1 seconds remaining on the clock. Gatdula spotted Illahi moving away from a phalanx of players who piled up near the sideline where the former was doing the inbound and threw a lob, allowing the latter to knock in an uncon-

tested banked shot.

Down by two possessions, CES Electronics refused to give up and remained in contention after Abadilla canned a long jumper from the top key, 14.5 seconds left in the game. CES Electronics then had an opportunity to either tie the game with a deuce or win with a triple after it regained possession following a held ball between Lopez and Abadilla, down to 4.3 seconds in the tightly fought match. However, for the nth time, CES Electronics bungled the chance when Orly Ebuen’s desperation triple

from the right key rimmed out as time expired. Both teams were without timeouts in the closing seconds of the game.

Catala top-scored for Erika’s/Ferrera with his 20 points, while Illahi and Gatdula contributed 18 and 14, respectively. Sonny Ebuen had 17 to lead CES. Erika’s/Ferrera improved its record to 1-1, while CES fell to a 0-2 slate.

Meanwhile, Ferrera Builders moved up to 2-0 for the solo lead in the U18 division following a 79-54 demolition of the debuting KM Market.

The Ferrera Builders-KB

Market tiff was first played last Saturday and was suspended due to rain with the former ahead, 38-19. The match resumed last Sunday with Ferrera Builders picking up where it left and sealing the win after the third period when its lead ballooned to 29, 62-33.

Chico Bondoc and Jun Castro had 18 points apiece for Ferrera Builders, while Markel Toves added 17.

Masters

Erika’s/Ferrera 69 – Catala 20, Illahi 18, Gatdula 14, Tabora 10, De Belen 5, Lopez 2.

CES 67 – S. Ebuen 17, O. Ebuen 12, Tibayan 9, Abadilla 9, Capuyon 8, Dacumos 6, Tobias 4, Farinas 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-19, 36-30, 57-50, 69-67.

U18

Ferrera 79 – Castro 18, C. Bondoc 18, Toves 17, A. Tabora 7, E. Tabora 4, Lee 4, Deleon Guerrero 4, F. Bondoc 3, Javier 2.

KB Market 54 – Aldan 18, Itaas 18, Mejia 6, Iba 6, San Juan 4, Ogasawara 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-11, 38-19, 62-33, 79-54.

Pacific Mini Games organizing committee formed

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

The CNMI's hosting of the 2021 Pacific Mini Games gets into full swing with the formation of the oversight committee that will manage Saipan's preparations for the quadrennial sporting event.

The oversight committee is composed of three board members of the Northern Marianas Sports Association, while four were appointed by Gov. Eloy S. Inos, and one from the Pacific Games Council.

Northern Marianas Sports Association president Mike White, vice president Kurt Barnes, and secretary Rose Igitol are from the CNMI sports sector, while PGC president Vidhya Lakhan represents the council.

Businessman Jerry Tan, Department of Public Works Secretary James Ada, Merced Tomokane, and Virginia Villagomez are the appointees by the governor.



White said the oversight committee's first order of business is to meet and elect a chairman.

"I will be calling the initial meeting of the committee. Among the first items of business is the election of a chair," said White.

White added their biggest concern right now is the track and field oval of the Oleai Sports Complex, the athletes' village, and additional shower rooms for the more than 1,000 expected athletes, coaches, and officials that will arrive for the Mini Games.

The Oleai track facility is due for resurfacing after bubbles and black patches have already formed on the rubber surface. The hammer throw area at the far right of the field also needs to be replaced after

Typhoon Soudelor damaged it.

Saipan has most of the sports facilities in place but it needs to be repaired after Soudelor tore through the islands last August. All sports events at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium are currently postponed.

White said the Federal Emergency Management Agency had already inspected the Ada Gym and other facilities inside the Oleai Sports Complex to assess the cost of repairs.

Inos' press secretary Ivan Blanco, in an earlier interview, said that the venues to be used for competition must be improved and renovated to be at par with the Mini Games' standards.

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association secretary general Ross Zapanta, meanwhile, said that they would like to look for a sponsor to finance the repairs of the broken lights of the football field.

White advised Zapanta to get in touch with either Barnes or NMSA executive director Tony Rogolifo for further dis-

cussions on the matter.

The Oleai Sports Complex, where the baseball and softball fields are also located, will be the main hub of the Mini Games.

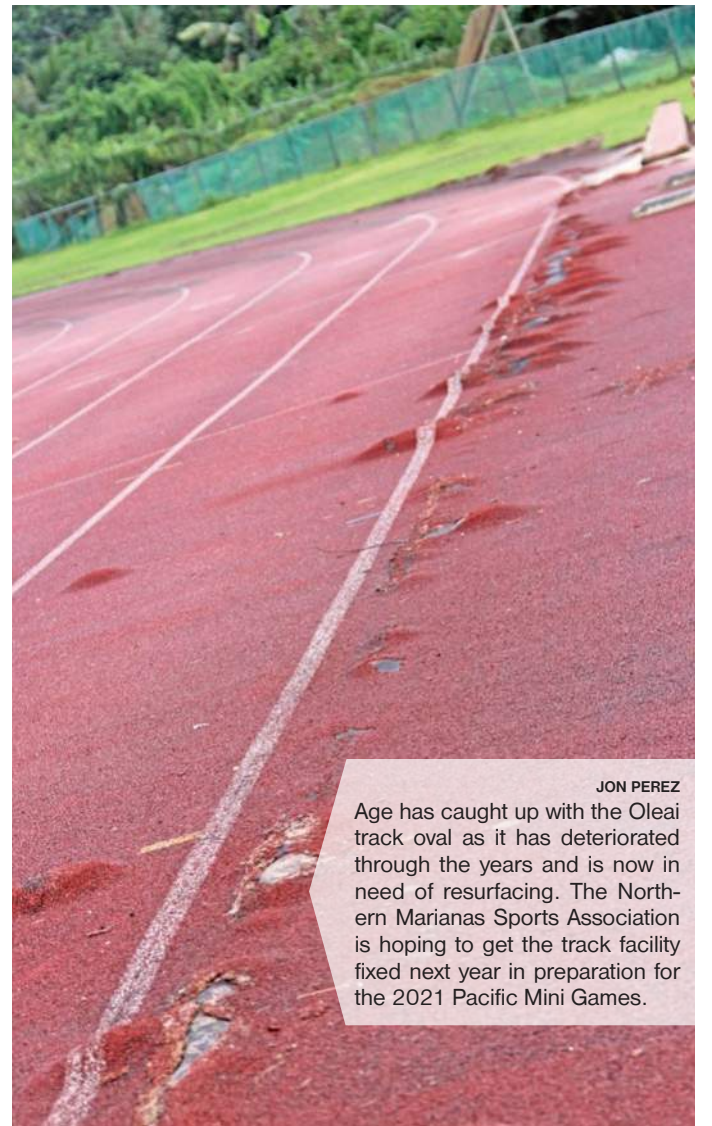
The Marianas High School Gymnasium, TSL Sports Complex, the American Memorial Park tennis courts, and the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool are some of the venues that are considered to host various events for the Mini Games.

Athletics, badminton, baseball, canoe, golf, sailing, swimming, tennis, triathlon, volleyball (beach and indoor), weightlifting, and wrestling are the 12 proposed sports to be played in the 2021 Games.

Saipan was the unanimous choice to host the 11th edition of the Mini Games, a scaled-down version of the Pacific Games, after narrowly losing to Vanuatu in the bid to organize the 2017 edition.

The Pacific Games Council approved Saipan's bid to host the Mini Games in last year's General Assembly in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

The Mini Games started in 1981 to give the smaller nations the chance to host a multi-sport event under the PGC.



JON PEREZ

Age has caught up with the Oleai track oval as it has deteriorated through the years and is now in need of resurfacing. The Northern Marianas Sports Association is hoping to get the track facility fixed next year in preparation for the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

JP World caging eyes reopening next month



Organizers of the 2nd JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League are hoping to resume games at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium in the first week of November.

The league that just started late July was halted early in the season after Typhoon Soudelor struck Saipan last Aug 2 and left the island without power for several weeks. Other villages are still without

power, including some areas in Middle Road where the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium is located

Before matches were suspended, the JP World caging managed to hold a pair of games last July 31 with last year's finalist Micronesian Brokers, Inc./Kentucky Fried Chicken beating Docomo in the first game and Tan Holdings downing Mariana Resort in the nightcap.

With their separate wins, Tan Holdings and MBI/KFC moved up to a tie for first place in the

team standings of the 10-squad field. Tan Holdings recorded its other victory over Joeten, 88-60, while MBI/KFC got its first win against Commonwealth Utilities Corp., 86-78.

Docomo absorbed its first loss in only two games, while Mariana Resort holds the same 1-1 record. Docomo won its opener against Top Development, Inc., 92-79, while Mariana Resort earlier prevailed versus McDonald's, 84-49. Joeten joined Docomo and Marina Resort in a triple tie for third place in the team standings as the former bounced back from its debut loss with a 59-56 victory against McDonald's

Two other teams—Saipan Ice and Cape Air—are entered in the second edition of the annual caging. Saipan Ice owns a 1-0 slate following its 78-41 rout of Cape Air last July 27.

Once the league returns to action, it will follow the remaining schedule in the round-robin competition. Under the original schedule (Aug. 3), Cape Air is supposed to meet Tan Holdings in the first match and Saipan is set to challenge CUC in the second tiff.

League coordinator Marlon Sison hopes CUC is no longer busy next month and will be able to play its remaining games. The same goes for Docomo, whose staff is working on restoring cable services to Saipan residents since the super typhoon hit the island hard. (Roselyn B. Monroyo)

JON PEREZ

Joeten's Ferdie Tobias, right, surveys the floor before passing the ball, while Tan Holdings' Jared Matsutaro stays close on defense during their game in the JP World caging last July at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



9th Annual HOM cycling race set for Dec. 5

Marianas Visitors Authority will present the 9th Annual Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle race on Dec. 5, at 6:15am at Marianas Resort & Spa.

Registration is now open for both individuals and teams at hell-of-the-marianas.com. The early bird entry fee is \$60 per person through Nov. 27, and a \$25 late fee will apply to athletes who register from Nov. 28 through Dec. 2. Online registration also includes an optional \$5 donation that will benefit Typhoon Soudelor relief efforts. Paper registration will soon be available at select Saipan

locations. HOM has been described as the "toughest race in Micronesia," and traverses a 100-kilometer course that includes nearly every major hill on the island. The course will start at the Marianas Resort & Spa entrance and travel south toward the former Palms Resort Saipan, before making a turnaround to travel north along Chalan Pale Arnold toward Suicide Cliff. After passing through Bird Island, the Grotto and the Marpi area, cyclists will continue south to Beach Road,

toward Koblerville, then to the eastern portion of the island, eventually circling back to the finish line at the entrance of Marianas Resort & Spa.

HOM is presented by MVA, sponsored by the Northern Marianas Islands Cycling Federation, and the Marianas Resort & Spa and is a PIVOT LLC event production. For additional race information, visit hell-of-the-marianas.com. Interested sponsors and event volunteers may contact PIVOT at meet@pivot24.com. (PR)



JON PEREZ

South Korean Kaon Cho, left, leads a group of cyclists going uphill past the Grotto in last year's Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle Race.



Cubs win NL
Division Series,
beat Cardinals
in Game 4

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Pacific Mini
Games
organizing
committee
formed

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Salvi takes Trench Throwdown silver

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Salvi Villanueva settled for the silver medal in the men's division of the 4th Marianas Trench Throwdown held over the weekend at the Chamorri CrossFit in Tamuning, Guam.

Villanueva amassed 1,425 points to place second behind Airman Alex Johnson's 1,450. Mike James, also from Guam and a member at CrossFit Latte Stone, was third with 1,385 points.

Joey Tudela and second-timer Nicole Harkness finished 12th and 15th places, respectively, among the 44 men and 22 women that competed from six different gyms in Guam and three individuals from Saipan.

Tudela, who is competing for the fifth time, garnered 892 points, while Harkness finished with 923.

CrossFit FORGING ELITE FITNESS

Carlos Sheiloh and Randy Mendiola, also both from Guam, scored 1,335 and 1,248 points each to complete the Top 5 finishers in the two-day competition divided into six Workouts of the Day.

Lindsay Summerhays led the Top 5 Guam bets with 1,551 points followed by Reena Catalina (1,394), Nevin Yazici

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Salvi Villanueva performs one of the workouts while competing in the 4th Marianas Trench Throwdown held over the weekend at the Chamorri CrossFit in Tamuning, Guam.

Erika's/Ferrera survives CES

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Erika's Catering/Ferrera Builders withstood CES Electronics' late rally to escape with a 69-67 win in their masters division game in the 2015 San Antonio

Community Action Network Basketball League last Tuesday at the San Antonio court.

Danny Illahi scored two field goals in the closing minutes of the exciting match, while Joseph Gatdula made a technical free throw and a crucial assist to give Erika's/Ferrera enough cushion and

foil CES Electronics' comeback bid.

CES Electronics, which trailed by 7 at the start of the fourth, 50-57, moved within 1 on two occasions, 64-63, and 66-65, with still a minute and change left in the match. Illahi's jumper from the foul line put Erika's/Ferrera on top by 3, 66-63, and CES Electronics had a chance to overhaul the deficit when Dick Tibayan had back-to-back trips to the stripe in their next two offensive sets following two straight miscues from their foes. How-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Erika's Catering/Ferrera Builders' Jerry Lopez tries to keep the ball away from CES Electronics' Ferdie Tobias, partly hidden, and Ariel Abadilla, right, while Orly Ebuen gets ready for help defense during the closing seconds of their Masters game in the San Antonio caging last Tuesday night at the San Antonio court.

Taisacan red-shirts at LSUA Generals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former CNMI national soccer player John Taisacan joins the growing list of CNMI players who has a chance to play in the collegiate ranks.

Taisacan, in a message sent to *Saipan Tribune* early this week, said he is red-shirting at Louisiana State University-Alexandria. The LSUA Generals play in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics under the Red River Athletic Conference and against eight other schools.

"I am red-shirting this season," said Taisacan, who is among the 21 freshmen on the squad composed of players from around the world.

The former MP United Football Club member does not mind sitting out in his rookie season, as he is still recovering from an ACL injury and will use his freshman year to learn more about his new squad and the competition in their division.

"The program here at LSUA is very organized and there is a

lot of talent among the players. The coaches are of course strict and know what they are doing," said Taisacan.

Brocklon Chatman, the former player and assistant coach of St. Louis Lions Taisacan in the United Soccer Leagues Professional Development League, is the Generals head coach.

"The level of soccer here is higher than any league on Saipan. Everyone has skills. It is way rougher than the men's league on Saipan. People get injured more often," added Taisacan, who is the third player from the CNMI to find a collegiate team this season with his former MP United teammate Enrico Del Rosario and Paire FC's Ethan Dickinson the first two.

"You will have to be more disciplined. There cannot be any mistakes here. Coaches are really strict and if you aren't



playing the way he expects you to, you will get replaced easily," the many-time CNMI youth national team member said.

Taisacan also said the things he learned from his club coaches and Northern Mariana

Islands Football Association technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi are really helpful as he adjusts to a different playing field.

"Most of what I've learned on Saipan comes from coach Seki. He has been my coach for

over four years and I remember every important thing he has taught me. Playing soccer is not only just about how

you perform physically throughout the whole 90 minutes of it, but it

is also about how you play mentally. Anticipation of the next play, patience, and remembering to enjoy the sport are the three very important things I always remember when playing," Taisacan said.



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